



SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT

Heritage. Charm. Adventure.

2013-2014 Annual Report





Heritage. Charm. Adventure.



2013-2014 Annual Report

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A Message from the Board of Finance

We are pleased to present the 152nd annual report of the Town of Simsbury. The goal of this report is to provide the town's citizens, taxpayers and other stakeholders with important financial information and a description of the significant events occurring in our town during the reporting period ending June 30, 2014.

Simsbury's boards of finance, selectmen and education worked closely together to prepare budgets and capital improvement projects designed to provide an excellent level of service to residents and to fit within our conservative financial guidelines.

We are pleased to report that for the first time in recorded history, we were able to provide a slight decrease in taxes for Simsbury taxpayers. At the same time, we maintained the town's undesignated fund balance (reserves) at 12 percent and fully funded the town's pension and other post employment plan (OPEB) benefits. We were able to achieve savings on expenses through new cooperative efforts between the boards of selectmen and education.

We also have created a new plan that will bring Simsbury Farms operations back to favorable results. During 2014, we hired a new finance director, created new town financial policies and updated others. We also began development of a long-range financial plan for Simsbury.

The town's fiscal prudence continues to be recognized

by Moody's Investors Service Inc., which has awarded us with a Aaa rating, the highest bond rating that a municipality can achieve.

During the past year, we approved capital projects designed to protect and restore some of our most important assets including:

- upgrading town roads
- improving athletic fields and other recreation facilities
- enhancing school security
- updating technology capabilities

Details about these projects and more will be covered in depth in this report.

Excellent educational, recreational, and cultural offerings, strong governance, and historic and bucolic surroundings combine to bring Simsbury continued public recognition as one of the best places to live in Connecticut and beyond.

It is an honor and privilege to serve as elected members of the Simsbury Board of Finance. We are fortunate to work with the many dedicated members of our community who give of their time and talent to serve on town boards and commissions, and with town and board of education staff who work hard every day to serve the residents and businesses of this community.

Sincerely,
Board of Finance



Simsbury Board of Finance members from the left: Linda Schotfield, Barbara Petitjean, vice chairman Nick B. Mason, chairman Peter K. Askham, Jeff Blumenthal and Moira Wertheimer.



A Message from the First Selectman

I am pleased to present the 2013-2014 annual report for the Town of Simsbury. As a resident, it is critical for you to have an accurate accounting of your tax dollars and a summary of town functions, goals and accomplishments. It continues to be the top priority for the town to provide the taxpayers of Simsbury with the highest quality of services without adding to the tax burden.

It is through the dedication and cooperation of Simsbury's elected officials, town staff, volunteers and the community as a whole that has made our town such a special place.

Every year Simsbury receives recognition for its excellence, and this year was no exception:

- Simsbury came in first — out of 41 — in *Connecticut Magazine's* rating of Connecticut towns with median home prices of \$225,000 to \$299,999.
- According to the "Top Booming Suburbs in America" survey by Coldwell Banker Real Estate, Simsbury is one of the top 10 "booming Connecticut suburbs".
- Simsbury made *Money Magazine's* Top 50 Best Places to Live. After being ranked 39th in 2011 and taking a year off in 2012, Simsbury made its comeback in 2013, ranking 50th.

Simsbury continues to show its commitment to energy conservation. The town adopted the C-PACE Program, which is designed to provide businesses and multi-family building owners with access to the capital they need to improve the energy efficiency of their properties. I am pleased to report this is seeing positive results. To date, the Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority has provided close to \$1.4 million in capital for energy efficiency projects in Simsbury, including solar installations

and other improvements, designed to help businesses reduce their costs of operation and the amount of fossil fuels they consume.

As always, town staff is working to provide the best quality of life for all residents. To that end, Simsbury received \$204,000 in state bond funds for the design of a new senior/community center.

To keep the town in the fast lane, we applied to be connected to the "Nutmeg Network," the state's fiber-optic infrastructure built to deliver reliable, high-speed internet access to its members throughout Connecticut. While this network has been available to schools, libraries and emergency services, it was only recently made available to towns. We also applied for and received a grant to cover infrastructure costs associated with joining the network.

I am proud to live and work in such a wonderful town. It is because of the efforts of so many people that this town continues to be a destination as a place to live, work and play. On behalf of the Simsbury Board of Selectmen, I thank you for choosing Simsbury as your home. Our community offers an unmatched quality of life and we are honored to serve you and provide the very best for you and your family.

Sincerely,

Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman

A Message from the Chairman of the Board of Education and Superintendent

Simsbury's high-quality school system attracts families to town and provides incentive to put down roots in our community. A diploma from Simsbury High School really means something, and it is not easily earned. It is the culmination of hard work by highly motivated students, knowledgeable teachers, families that truly value education, and a supportive community. With such a strong foundation for learning, in 2013-2014 Simsbury students delivered some standout achievements:

- 8th grade students achieved an all-time high on the Science Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT).
- 10th grade students scored highest ever in science on the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT), with 82.3 percent of students meeting goal and 62 percent in the advanced band.
- Advanced Placement (AP) participation resulted in 71 percent of graduating Simsbury seniors successfully completing a college course during high school.
- New College Board data shows that Simsbury graduates are earning four-year degrees more frequently than any other district in the Hartford area or any other district in our demographic reference group (DRG B).

We have always felt that Simsbury High School (SHS) produces world-class learners, and this year we were excited to receive new data to support that belief. The Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) provides educational comparisons between 34 highly industrialized countries. In a random sampling of 15-year-olds, here is how SHS students performed:

- Simsbury students scored above the international average in **every** category of **every** test.
- In math, **only two** of the 34 countries outperformed Simsbury students.
- In science, **none** of the 34 countries outperformed Simsbury students.
- In reading, **none** of the 34 countries outperformed Simsbury students.

Contributing to this world-class education are programs that are unique to Simsbury, in particular Simsbury High School's student learning clusters. These clusters offer enrichment and highly focused exploration in subjects like architecture, biomedical sciences, engineering, visual arts, music and performing arts, communication, and more. Our



engineering program prepares students exceptionally well for the academic rigor of college courses, and it has grown from 15 students in 2004-2005 to 154 students in 2013-2014. Simsbury Arts Academy (SAA) has grown not just with regard to enrollment but also in depth and breadth of its programming, even offering Saturday classes for young art explorers.

Providing a safe, nurturing environment in which students can learn is always a priority. This year, state grant funding allowed us to implement our newest security measures, including our Standard Response Protocols. Our Facilities and Enrollment Task Force continued to examine and respond to enrollment concerns. Modular classrooms were removed, the last of which will be Central Elementary School's, scheduled for the summer of 2015. More changes may come, but we will continue to approach declining enrollment with careful planning and thoughtful implementation.

Planning for the future is crucial, and this past year we reframed our work by revising our board of education five-year goals, which drive our decision-making. We also updated our District Vision and Core Beliefs. (You can find links to these guiding documents on our website at www.simsbury.k12.ct.us.)

Technology is a key to the future and a pathway to authentic learning experiences. In 2013-2014, we moved closer to our goal of providing ready access to technology, with the deployment of 625 low-cost Chromebooks, which contributed to the success of our Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) testing pilot in March. When multiple grade levels had to be online at the same time for testing, these devices got our teachers and students on the Internet quickly and reliably. Besides meeting computer hardware needs for state testing, in the classroom we leveraged online services that allow for personalization, collaboration, and exploration.

Given the many triumphs from the Simsbury Public

Schools, it may surprise you that we were able to accomplish our goals with a minimal budget increase; in fact, for the first time your taxes did not go up. We attribute that positive outcome to the ability of the board of education, the board of finance, and the board of selectmen to work together to find ways to control spending and streamline resources — more evidence that we live in a great community. In perhaps the most obvious reflection of this community's generosity, this year we received an unexpected and substantial bequest from retired teacher Kathleen Magowan. Her legacy will be felt by generations.

Thank you for your past and future support of our schools. We look forward to measuring our progress toward our new goals, as well as experiencing more of our students' amazing achievements in the new school year. If you have any questions or concerns, you can email us at LTedone@simsbury.k12.ct.us or MCurtis@simsbury.k12.ct.us. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Lydia Tedone, Chairman, Board of Education

Matthew T. Curtis, Superintendent

Town Elected Boards

BOARD OF SELECTMAN

The Simsbury Board of Selectmen is the legislative body of the Town of Simsbury. The board consists of six members, including the First Selectman, and members are elected to two-year terms. The board of selectmen derives its authority through the town charter and Connecticut General Statutes.

BOARD OF FINANCE

Boards of finance in Connecticut perform a significant role as an elected citizen oversight board whose charge is to balance the municipal expenditure requests with the available revenue. The task of Simsbury's six member board of finance, as outlined in the Connecticut General Statutes and the town charter, is two fold: act as the budget making authority, and be responsible for financial

and taxation matters.

The Simsbury Board of Finance works on an annual basis with the board of selectmen and board of education to put both operating and capital budgets before the voters. During that process, the finance board is responsible for holding public hearings for the presentation of operating and capital budgets by the first selectman and the chairman of the board of education. These meetings provide an open forum for public comment before further action is taken after the town referendum.

The board of finance is also responsible for gathering all relevant financial data pertinent to local, state and national economic health, in order to establish budget guidelines and establish the mill rate on an annual basis. Finally, the board works with the finance director to oversee the town's accounting systems, provide for the annual budget audit, and assist the first selectman's office in preparing the annual town report. The work of the board of finance provides essential checks and balances that ensure the long-term financial stability of the town.

Simsbury's economy is showing signs of improvement from the "great recession" which witnessed higher than

normal levels of unemployment, a depressed housing market, reduced investment income and little growth of the town's Grand List, all of which have challenged the board of finance since 2008. The finance board has adopted a conservative, low tax increase posture for several years. The current budget, adopted in May 2014 resulted in a decrease of about 0.4 percent and provides funds to maintain quality education and exceptional town services. Simsbury maintains a "rainy day" reserve fund balance to 12 percent, which in recent years has allowed the town to "weather" inclement storm events without major disruption. Moody's Investors Service Inc. continues to rate the town's debt at its highest bond rating: Aaa. Additionally, Simsbury has won awards for excellence in financial reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for 17 consecutive years.

The finance board remains focused on improving the management of the town's pension obligations and public safety. Initiatives include financing some capital projects at low favorable interest rates, saving the town on interest expense. Simsbury continues to support the purchase of open space and development rights.



BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Simsbury Board of Education is the governing and policy making body of the Simsbury School District. The board derives its power from the Constitution and General Statutes of the State of Connecticut, as well as from the State Board of Education and the Town of Simsbury Charter.

The board of education is responsible for establishing policy, educational goals and objectives that guide the school system toward continuous improvement of the educational program for Simsbury's children. The board is also responsible for the ongoing evaluation of the school program against its goals and objectives and for the evaluation of the superintendent. The board of education, by Connecticut General Statute 10-222, must prepare an itemized estimate of the expenses for operating the schools in the upcoming year. Once the town has approved the appropriation of funds at referendum, the board has the discretion and responsibility for the expenditure of those funds.

The board consists of eight elected members who meet twice a month at the education offices. Agendas



and minutes of the meetings are posted on the board of education page of the district website <http://www.simsbury.k12.ct.us/page.cfm?p=1675>.

The board has a strategic plan that provides direction and focus to the improvement work of the district. The strategic plan includes improvement indicators that establish ambitious goals that push staff and students to grow and improve beyond current high levels of performance.

2013-2014 Accomplishments

Achievements

- For the second year in a row, Tariffville Elementary School was named a "School of Distinction" by the State Department of Education for highest overall performance on the Connecticut Mastery Test.
- 31 Tariffville school students participated in the district's first annual Invention Convention competition; six qualified for state level competition, and five out of the six won individual awards at the state competition at UConn.
- Eight Simsbury students were winners and 12 students received honorable mention for the Connecticut Writing Project, for which the State of Connecticut received

more than 1,000 entries in all genres of writing; winners were published in the Connecticut Writing Project publication.

- 15 students received National Merit recognition.
- Three students were National Merit semi-finalists.
- One Simsbury High School student was selected as a Connecticut Association of Schools Governor's Scholar.
- 19 students were Simsbury Scholars for all four years.
- 170 students were recognized as Simsbury Scholars.
- Simsbury High School's National Honor Society Chapter inducted 15 new members in the fall of 2013 and 146 new members in the spring of 2014.
- 22 students were inducted into the National Business Honor Society.
- 30 students were selected by audition to participate in the Connecticut Music Educators Association's Northern Region High School Festival.
- Five students were selected by audition to participate in the Organization of American Kodály Educators National Honor Choir.
- Squadron Line Elementary School's sixth grade special chorus won a Platinum Designation and second Place Overall Elementary Chorus at Fantastic Festivals (Six Flags).
- 21 Squadron Line students qualified for and sang in several prestigious honors choirs (12 in the OAKE National Choirs, four in the CT Northern Regional Middle School Choir, four in the CT Elementary Honors Choir, and one in the ACDA Eastern Regional Choir).
- 11 students were named state Council of Language Teachers State Poetry Contest winners — eight gold and three silver.

Top photo, Simsbury High School Grew Team. Left, top, Simsbury Public Schools fifth and sixth graders often volunteer in the kindergarten classroom to help students with their writing. Photo left middle, For Henry James Memorial School's annual Lunch and Learn, owner and president of Visiting Angels, John Lew, shares a light moment with students. Left bottom, Members of the Henry James Leadership Academy play a game during one of their after school meetings.

- 39 students attended a Latin Day experience.
- Three students were presenters at the Connecticut Junior Sciences & Humanities Symposium sponsored by UConn.
- One student placed third in the Connecticut State History Day competition in the individual exhibit category.
- A SHS submission received Honorable Mention in the first ever White House Film Festival.
- SHS students won first place, third place, and Honorable Mention in the 2014 Connecticut Home Builders Association Home Design contest.
- The play, *Whose Life is it Anyway?* won Best Play from the Halo Awards.
- The cast of *Les Misérables* won Best Acting ensemble from the Halo Awards.
- SHS's performance of *Les Misérables* generated the highest attendance ever for a school play.
- Two students spearheaded a partnership with a local business to invest \$1,500 through the Stock Market Club.
- Girls' Ice Hockey won the State Championship.
- Girls' Cross Country earned CCC West co-champion honors and qualified for the State Open.
- 25 student athletes named to the All-CCC fall teams in their respective sports.
- 30 student athletes named to the All-CCC winter teams in their respective sports.
- 61 student athletes were named to the All-CCC spring teams in their respective sports.
- Girls' Volleyball made it to the state quarterfinals.
- Girls' Field Hockey advanced to the state semifinals.
- Girls' Indoor Track and Wrestling earned the CCC West title.
- CCC Divisional titles were brought home by Boys' and Girls' Golf, Boys' Lacrosse, Boys' Tennis, and Boys' and Girls' Track and Field.
- Four State Titles were earned by Girls' Rugby, Boys' Crew, Girls' Crew, and Girls' Track and Field.
- Two basketball players, one male and one female, surpassed the 1,000-point threshold for their careers.
- Central Elementary School celebrated its 100th birthday in the fall.
- In November 2013, Tootin' Hills Elementary School was featured on WFSB Channel 3's "Cool Schools" segment, highlighting its character conductors program; the Take Action Club; technology in kindergarten, fourth, and sixth grade classrooms; and folk dancing in music.

Progress On Board Goals

At the end of the 2013-2014 school year, the board adopted new goals for 2014-2019. Throughout the 2013-2014 school year, significant progress was made on the previous goals that have been in place for five years.

2014-2015 Goals

For fiscal year 2014, the Simsbury Board of Education will implement its newly revised goals:

- **Student achievement:** All students will participate in a rigorous and engaging learning experience that balances academics with personal, social, civic, and physical development, enabling them to be successful.

- **Professionalism:** All staff will contribute to a challenging, collaborative, and focused environment that fosters continuous improvement.
- **School culture:** Simsbury Public Schools will provide a physically and emotionally safe and supportive environment.
- **Communication:** The district will effectively communicate with stakeholders and engage them in the district's improvement efforts.
- **Resources:** All resources will be utilized efficiently and effectively towards the district's vision and goals.



Photos top: Board of Education Chairman Lydia Tedone, Latimer Lane Elementary School Principal Grace Morris, and Superintendent Matt Curtis greeted Open Choice students as they got off the school bus from Hartford and walked with them to school during National Bike to School Day on May 7. Photo below, Simsbury Arts Academy interns.

Departments & Services

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Simsbury's Administrative Services Department is primarily responsible for the development and administration of the town's human resources program and for providing assistance to the first selectman in managing the general government operations of the town. The department plays a key role in the development of the board of selectmen's annual budget, leads the town's contract negotiations with its six unions and oversees the town's risk management function.

In addition, the director and deputy director of administrative services staff the retirement plan subcommittee, the technology task force, the public safety subcommittee and the town's safety committee. The director serves as the town's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) coordinator and the deputy director serves as the town's risk manager and veterans liaison.

The department also includes a benefits coordinator responsible for health and wellness benefits administration and a communications specialist tasked with improving communications with residents and businesses as well as working with town departments to make the website more user-friendly.

The department recently led a successful effort to consolidate health benefits under a single carrier with a significant savings in administrative costs. It is currently working with outside advisors to prepare Simsbury for the increase in health care costs associated with implementation of the Affordable Care Act.

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Animal Control Incident Statistics 2013 – 2014

Animal Complaints	1,082
Dog Licenses Issued	2,273
Animal Bites	3
Animal Related Arrests	3
Impounded Animals	41

Simsbury Animal Control is a service provided by the Simsbury Police Department. It is comprised of responding to domestic and non-domestic animal related

needs, insuring animal related compliance with public health and safety concerns, quality of life issues and education. The dedicated Animal Control Officer (ACO) remains readily accessible to Simsbury residents and is frequently called upon to assist area towns with animal related issues, which promotes strong relationships with surrounding towns.

Year after year, the department has completed the annual dog license survey. This activity is very time consuming and requires ACO Mark Rudewicz to physically go to over 1,400 homes and check for licensing and rabies vaccination compliance. This survey was completed again in order to reduce the risk of public health issues and allows



for the town to keep 60 percent of the dog license fees. Simsbury is one of 11 towns that complete the survey. The department also provides an annual rabies vaccination clinic, which allows pet owners to have their pets vaccinated at a reduced fee.

The department's ACO continues to grow the Heroes and Hounds program, which sends holiday care packages to active military and their canine partners serving overseas. Over 350 packages were sent out in December 2013, a significant increase over previous years.

The ACO is always prepared to respond to emergencies that involve resident animals. The animal shelter that was setup after storm Alfred, and the tropical storm Irene response illustrated this. The ACO is also licensed and certified by the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) for nuisance wildlife control.

2014-2015 Goals

- Continue annual participation in dog license survey and hosting of rabies vaccination clinic.
- Provide broad based educational presentations and information concerning wildlife safety as well as domestic animals, such as "Preventing Dog Bites", "Aggressive Dogs" and "Keeping Your Pets Safe".
- Host training for patrol officers and area Animal Control Officers.
- Enhance professional growth and service.

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

The Simsbury Assessor's Office is responsible for discovering, listing, and valuing property and administering exemption and tax relief programs as required by applicable state and federal law or local ordinance.

The list of October 1, 2013 was completed on,

The Top 10 Taxpayers on the October 1, 2012 Simsbury Grand List as of June 30, 2014:

Name	Nature of Business	Net Taxable Valuation
Hartford Life and Accident Ins. Company	Ins. Co. & Real Estate Holdings	\$43,519,840
E and A/I and I and G Commons LP	Shopping Center	\$23,450,000
Connecticut Light & Power	Public Utility	\$20,174,920
Executive Risk Indemnity Inc.	Real Estate Holdings	\$17,247,680
Simsbury Hopmeadow Street LLC	Real Estate Holdings	\$13,248,510
Hoffman, Phyllis W Trustee	Real Estate Holdings	\$9,191,870
Simsbury Commons North E&A LLC	Supermarket Property	\$8,864,800
Woodgreen Simsbury LLC	Real Estate Holdings	\$8,464,400
Hoffman Enterprises Limited Partnership	Real Estate Holdings	\$7,004,970
Aquarion Water Company of Ct	Public Utility	\$6,962,460
		\$158,129,450



During 2013-2014, construction was underway for 216 living units at Dorset Crossing. Forty-eight of the units, the building in the rear 100 Casterbridge, are fully accessible. The buildings in the front are mostly standard apartments (168 units including detached garages, a meeting house and pool).

January 31, 2014. The net taxable grand list as reported to the State of Connecticut on May 1, 2014 was \$2,251,625,275.

As of June 30, 2014 all of the tax appeals to superior court on the October 1, 2012 grand list had been concluded. The top 10 taxpayer list in this report includes the effect of any court appeals on the total assessment for those taxpayers whose assessments were changed by the court.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

The Connecticut Building Code is a number of model codes including the electric, fire, safety, mechanical, plumbing, energy and existing building codes, as well as a number of reference standards including those for accessibility. The building department enforces a tremendous amount of technical requirements in a way as to make them understandable and attainable by the people who need to follow them. The department does this through plan reviews, thousands of site inspections, responding to inquiries, providing information and, when needed, issuing orders to get compliance with all of the code requirements.

The department coordinates its efforts with other departments including zoning, wetlands, the fire marshal, historic, health, water pollution control, tax collector and the assessor, so that a permit to construct can be issued by the building official. The building department also interacts and supports the enforcement of the State Traffic Commission, the state Department of Transportation, the Department of Consumer Protection licensing, OSHA, and state and federal environmental protection regulations.

The process can be daunting, but the department's goal has been to make the permit process as simple and

seamless as possible for each applicant while protecting the public interest and assuring the safety of the town's built environment. In addition, the department supports the fire marshal in responding to fires, is the liaison with public utilities for service approvals and connections, and has the authority to condemn a building or structure.

2013-2014 Accomplishments

This year was another busy year for plan review, permitting and inspections. **The department issued more than 1,900 permits with a total value exceeding \$46 million, and performed over 2,200 inspections.** This level of activity is comparable to any of the busiest years in Simsbury's history. An updated residential code was adopted in Connecticut that added new requirements and additional inspections. A new real estate law requiring disclosure of open permits on homes sold added work to the schedule. The department was able to help many Simsbury residents and soon to be residents resolve open issues and get projects that were done without permits addressed, compliant and documented. The department created consistent procedures and worked with homeowners and realtors to make homes safe and saleable. Simsbury continued to participate in a mutual aid agreement with Granby, East Granby, Suffield, Canton and Hartland.

As chairman of the Connecticut Codes and Standards Committee, building official Henry M. Miga heard appeals to the state building, plumbing, mechanical, electrical, accessibility and fire codes; participated in the production and hearings for the 2009 and 2012 model codes for inclusion in the state codes; and commented on the proposed State Fire Prevention Code. This is his third term elected as chair to that committee.

Administrative assistant Colleen Fenn has been persistently working to meet the administrative workload related to the high number of both inspections and number of permits issued. The addition of a part-time file clerk and an assistant building official for six hours per week has allowed the department to keep pace with the increased activity. Fenn continues to make substantial contributions to fine tuning of the permit software. The

department has concentrated on maintaining a high level of customer service but there have been occasions when inspection requests have been scheduled at times other than requested.

2014-2015 Goals

The building department hopes to be able to maintain a high level of customer service with limited inconvenience in scheduling and no reduction in primary services. Many new state and federal requirements and updated codes will be in effect this year with learning curves for contractors, design professionals and this department. Some of those new codes will require additional inspections and documentation. The department will begin limited record digitizing and storage, and continue improvement to its permit software. The ability to accomplish these goals will be directly related to staffing levels and budget constraints. Miga hopes to continue involvement in code development at the state and national level. Better, more usable and accessible codes, not just more regulation, must be diligently pursued.

COMPUTER DEPARTMENT

The computer department supports information technologies throughout all municipal departments, including offices of the board of education, Simsbury Public Library and law enforcement. With the continued growth in government usage of technologies and the demand for providing and utilizing various information streams, the department continues to focus on researching innovative ways to develop existing and researching new technologies to provide informational benefits to supervised departments and the citizens of Simsbury.

This year has been a great year of collaborating with all departments and their personnel to provide better service and programs for residents and others parties that make Simsbury a great place to work and live.

2013-2014 Accomplishments

- Researched, developed and implemented a cost effective wireless and network solution for the Performing Arts Center at Simsbury Meadows that provided ISP services for critical business and patron applications.



Youngsters participate in one of the tennis and golf camps at Simsbury Farms run by the recreation department, Simsbury Farms Golf and Fun Unlimited Tennis.

- Due to expiring licensing and software costs, the department completed migration to a new anti-virus software solution at Simsbury Public Library that provides ease of administration for both library and town IT staff at an efficient price level.
- The department successfully implemented a pilot program for the virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) within municipal offices. The program will continue to be utilized by selected departments and will be reviewed on an ongoing basis, looking at costs and user expectations.
- Coordinated and supervised the successful migration to a new browser-based version of the town's financial suite of application that provides an independent platform for all users throughout the educational and municipal networks.
- Completed the migration to an open-source software platform for Simsbury's website that provides greater flexibility and administration of website content by various staff.
- Completion of collaborative project with law enforcement and educational district's implementation of Student Resource Officer (SRO) program that provides officers with student and public safety programs and information within a secure mobile footprint.
- Supervise the development and successful integration of the cloud-based building permit application with assessment data records that provided nightly updated information for residents and contractors.
- Implemented and coordinated a town-wide employee training program on a suite of office productivity software that provided instructor-led classes and hands-on activities.
- The department was successful in providing product research, design and implementation of cloud-based anti-virus and spam solution for Exchange mail services.
- Participating with the STEP (pre-vocational and vocational training) program at Simsbury High School for students with significant learning needs.

2014-2015 Goals

- Participation in the State of Connecticut's NutmegCEN Network project for Internet services, as well as future participation in regional sharing initiatives as provided by municipalities.
- Continue the expansion of telecommunications, including telephony, among remote municipal locations, as well as providing secure and cost effective network segments to support and enhance municipal services. Areas include; Eno Memorial Hall, Water Pollution Control, the public works facility, Simsbury Public Library and the Simsbury Fire District-Main Station. A planned fiber optic segment is currently in development and is expected to be finalized during this fiscal period.
- Provide service and support activities to Simsbury Public Library's successful first-time installation of tablet technology for the children's department's use of iPads for children's access stations and Microsoft Surface tablets for public access catalog stations. Both solutions lowered the daily cost of operations and administration

of hardware and software. In addition, the computer department completed upgrades to the library's network switches and ISP service appliance.

- Plan and research for new in-car video support systems and mobile-data-terminal for Simsbury Police Department patrol vehicles.

CULTURE, PARKS AND RECREATION

The Simsbury Culture, Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for the administration of the town's parks, recreational facilities and recreational programs. The department attempts to provide a wide range of programs and recreational opportunities, which contribute to the environment, needs, and interests of the community. It is recognized that the programs and services provided by this department contribute to the quality of life in this community, and are an integral part of Simsbury's health, welfare, attractiveness, and economic vitality.

The Simsbury Culture, Parks and Recreation Commission provides direction and oversight to the department, as well as recommending policy to the board of selectmen. The commission is assisted by the Simsbury Farms Complex Committee, a sub-committee that advises on the operation and programming at the Simsbury Farms Recreation Complex.

Department staff also provide support to the Performing Arts Center Board, Simsbury Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee, and Simsbury Beautification Committee.

2013-2014 Accomplishments

- Completed renovation of all sand bunkers at the Simsbury Farms Golf Course. The course was voted "Best Golf Course in the Farmington Valley" by the Farmington Valley Visitors Association.
- The Connecticut Recreation and Park Association recognized the department with its "2013 Facility of Merit Award." The award was in recognition of the



In addition to the many children that participate in the parks and recreation programs, it also takes a big staff to run them.

newly renovated main building at Simsbury Farms, which included improved energy efficiency and accessibility.

- Successfully restructured camps and programs resulting in increased participation. Continued to market the department's facilities and programs to over 7,000 households registered in the department's online database. Organized and administered the 13th Annual Simsbury Celebrates event in November.
- **Maintained over 2,500 acres of parks and open space, 40 athletic fields and facilities including the Performing Arts Center and Farmington Valley**

Capital Project Services

During the year, the engineering department provided support for the following capital projects:

Project	Activity	Project Values \$Millions
Ethel Walker Open Space — Parcel C	Acquisition Coordination	1.05
Ethel Walker Open Space —Parcel B	Acquisition Grant	2.05
Emergency Generator Improvements	Design	0.34
Owens Brook/West Street Walks	Design/Construction	0.36
Wolcott Pump Station Rehab	Construction	1.38
Eno Senior/Community Center	Site Study	0.03
Tunxis Pumping Station Rehab	Construction	0.67
Squadron Line Boilers	Design	0.85
Simsbury Center Improvements	Design	0.35
High School Track and Turf Restoration	Design	0.25
Sewer Extensions (5)	Design	0.055
Town Hall/Eno Memorial Roofs	Design	0.288
Highway Garage Utility Upgrades	Design	0.004
Total Value:		\$7.67 Million

Greenway. Retained a consulting forester to establish management plans for four parcels of town owned land.

2014-2015 Goals

- Complete fairway renovations on holes No. 1 and No. 10 and begin green reconstruction to the Simsbury Farms Golf Course.
- Work cooperatively with youth sports organizations on continued park and facility improvements.
- Work with consulting forester and town staff to administer management plans to enhance the health and viability of town forest areas.
- Continue to make Simsbury Farms the "Heart of a Great Community."

ENGINEERING/CAPITAL PROJECTS

The engineering department provides design and management services for community projects, and administrative and design support for capital projects. During the past year, the department worked closely with the board of selectmen, the public building committee, Simsbury Public Schools and several town agencies in order to advance several projects to the bidding and construction phase. The year was also a transition year for the department with the

retirement of Richard Sawitzke in November of 2013.

Project Professional Services

The engineering department staff coordinated survey, engineering, and contract management and inspection services for 23 projects, valued at \$1.2 million.

Design documents were completed and prepared for improved back-up generator capabilities for the emergency operations center, high school emergency shelter, and Tariffville Elementary School. A \$59,213 grant was received to assist in the installation of a generator for a shelter at Tariffville elementary. Also, design documents for portable generator connections to Eno Memorial Hall,

In response to neighborhood requests, plans are under development for sewer extensions on Russell Lane and Seminary Road.

The department worked closely with the board of education in completing design documents on a fast track for turf and track rehabilitation at Simsbury High School so the project could be substantially completed in the summer of 2015.

The department coordinated with the public building committee to refine site selection for the Eno/senior/community center project to the center area. A final site selection for the facility by the public building committee is anticipated in the next fiscal year.

Design documents were completed for partial roof replacements at Eno Memorial Hall and town hall working closely with the department of public works.

Development Services

Development services comprise plan review, periodic observation of work, performance bond administration and data base management for the land uses commissions. Thirty three projects, with site improvements valued at \$11.4 million, were managed during the year.

These projects will add significant value to the town's Grand List and offer attractive business and residential facilities. Powder Forest Homes II, a development of single-family homes, and the apartments in Phase 2 of Hop Brook Village were completed. Engineering reviews were completed for a number of projects including Tower Run and Pride gas stations. Construction has begun on several developments including Carson Way — Phase 1 in the Powder Forest, Eastpointe at Dorset Crossing, and special needs housing at Dorset Crossing. New developments including Big Y Supermarket, Murphy's Turn, Talcott Acres, Powder Forest Parcels 5 and 6, and the planned development at 34 Hopmeadow Street are expected to be under construction next year.

Special Services

Special services encompass support activities for various town departments. Major activities included the following:

The Geographical Information Services (GIS) build-out was initiated during the year through a series of meetings with key users to reinvigorate the project for rollout to the public. Data available was expanded and updated to reflect current data consistent with the assessor's property information. This system allows efficient updating of maps, along with the ability to retrieve underlying land use information. Rollout to the public is anticipated during fiscal year 2014-2015.

Grant applications, with a value in excess of \$2.5 million, were administered for 12 projects. New grant applications submitted for funding included the realignment of Nod Road and expansion of the Performing Arts Center. The administrative process continued for grants received including Ethel Walker Parcel C open space, Tariffville school emergency shelter generator, and the Simsbury Center improvements.



Environmental testing and studies were provided to numerous town departments to assist in their presentations, data management, and community activities. Ground and surface water tests were completed at several sites to assure regulatory standards' compliance as required by the DEEP's Clean Water regulations. Databases and map files were maintained for subdivision and site developments, surety bonding, excavation permits, and state aid road maps and mileage records. State mileage records are an important component for various grant programs.

Looking Ahead

A number of capital projects funded under the FY 2014-2015 budget will provide a challenge for the department in providing necessary services and coordination. In addition, development activity could reach a level not experienced in the Town of Simsbury in the last 20 years, which could be a significant challenge to the department.

On a regional basis, the department's full- and part-time staff actively participates on the board of directors of the Farmington Valley Health District, the Call Before You Dig system, the Capital Region Council of Governments' Transportation Committee, and the Connecticut Department of Energy, and Environmental Protection's storm water management program.

Early in 2014, the senior center/Eno Memorial subcommittee and the board of selectmen made a recommendation to eliminate the Bushy Hill Road site from further consideration and to focus site selection on a site in the center area. The department will continue to coordinate with the public building committee to continue the process for site selection with a goal to select a site during FY 2014-2015.

The department will be carefully balancing the services provided to manage a challenging program of design and development projects in the upcoming year.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The Simsbury Department of Finance consists of the following offices: finance/treasurer, assessor, tax collector, and information technology.

The finance department handles all the day-to-day fiscal operations of the town including accounts payable, payroll, assessment and collections, and is responsible for establishing policies and procedures to safeguard the town's assets. The finance office prepares the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association for the last 17 years. The finance director coordinates with the boards of selectmen and finance to issue debt in accordance with town policy.

SIMSBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Simsbury Public Library is the community's gathering place, technology hub and first stop for information. The library remains true to its mission to simplify the complexity of modern life and support residents in making smoother transitions as the world changes. To that end, the library increased the number of technology training opportunities.

Photos, top, The Simsbury Public Library expand upon the Innovators' Workshop MakerSpace project through engagement of the community in the Maker Movement, which is for all ages. Bottom, The library held its first Innovators' Fair April 26.

Also, this year, the library focused on innovation. With the engagement of a community task force, the library explored the Maker Movement and established *Innovators' Workshop*, Simsbury Public Library's MakerSpace. First, building on already existing collaborative hands-on programs illustrative of the STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) tenets, then expanding offerings to include 3D printing and replicating equipment for users of all ages. **The 3D printing lab was unveiled at the first Innovators' Fair, which drew nearly 500 people in late April.** This



endeavor found synergy with other town organizations and departments and the library is working collectively to further Simsbury as a place of innovation.

The library is able to offer a high level of service to the community thanks to its dedicated staff, library board of trustees, Friends of the Library, and volunteers.

2013-2014 Accomplishments

- Opened the library's 3D printing lab at the first Innovators' Fair April 26. The lab was made possible thanks to generous gifts from the Kelly family in memory of Eunice Kelly, Simsbury Bank, Simsbury-Granby Rotary, the Law Offices of Francis, O'Neil and



DelPiano and a grant from CT at Work an initiative of Connecticut Humanities.

- The number of library visitors increased 23.6 percent.
- Transitioned in early June to Innovative Interfaces Sierra Integrated Library System, offering more efficient workflow for staff and greater level of service to patrons through the Encore catalog interface.
- **Installed tablets as library catalog stations throughout the adult department to increase access to library collection information.**
- Installed parking lot lighting along Eaglewood Lane to increase safety.
- **Library Journal's Index of Public Library Use 2013:** Simsbury Public Library rated third highest in its category behind Darien and New Canaan, moving up a step from ranking fourth in 2012. Simsbury out-ranked libraries in West Hartford, Farmington, Fairfield, Glastonbury and Avon.

Photo left, A 3D printing lab was unveiled at the first Innovators' Fair, which drew nearly 500 people in late April, at the Simsbury Public Library. Photo bottom, The number of Simsbury Public Library visitors increased 23.6 percent in fiscal year 2013-2014. Many of them utilized the library's business resource center.



2014-2015 Goals

- Through attrition of staff, hire a teen services librarian. Reimagine teen services. Repurpose teen spaces. With the addition of a teen services librarian, achieve a 5 percent increase in teen activities and teen library use.
- Expand upon the Innovators' Workshop MakerSpace project through engagement of the community in the Maker Movement. As a community leader, collaborate on the town-wide Innovation Initiative to further Simsbury's recognition as a place of innovation.
- Rollout a redesigned, dynamic website which is more user friendly and better promotes the library's services and resources, especially those available remotely 24/7.
- Engage in strategic marketing and outreach promoting library programs and services to the community. Achieve a 3 percent increase in library usage.
- Evaluate and pursue the use of volunteers in expanded capacities in order to reduce costs.

PLANNING AND LAND USE DEPARTMENT

During the fiscal year 2013-2014, the Simsbury Department of Community Planning and Development continued supporting the planning commission, zoning commission, conservation and inland wetlands commission, economic development commission, zoning board of appeals, design review board, and the historic district commission. In this role, the department's staff meets with applicants, evaluates development applications, and advises these boards and commissions as they review them. The staff provides guidance on a wide variety of matters, including: land use policy issues, plans, and applicable regulations and ordinances.

A major project that came through the office in 2013-2014 included The Hartford Form-Based Code.

Staff also spent a significant amount of time keeping up with zoning violations. Blight complaints from neighbors have continued to increase, due to the number of foreclosures in process at this time.

The department staff continues meeting with applicants and potential applicants to advise and assist them with the process and procedures for their contemplated projects. In addition, the department staff counsels all other town departments, as well as town residents and the general public. The review and processing of all land use applications by the staff provides the coordination necessary for the efficient administering of all land use applications. This will continue in the future, as the department strives to further improve the necessary coordination and communication between the land use commissions and all other departments in order to optimize the land use application process.

Simsbury Public Library

Performance Measures FY 2013-2014

Items circulated per capita
Program attendance per capita
Library visits per capita

Simsbury State Average

17.5 9
1.13 .5
13.3 6

Key Statistics 2010-2014

Average number of items circulated per hour open
Average number of questions answered per hour open
Average number of public Internet computers used per hour open
Annual program attendance
Number of borrowers
Total annual service hours

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
146.9	152.9	172.1	144.1	127.2
16.7	17.6	19.2	18.1	20.8
39.5	36.5	37.8	36.1	38.9
25,049	36,466	34,556	27,934	26,425
12,636	14,597	14,149	13,380	13,123
3,138	3,138	2,775	3,256	3,256



POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Simsbury Police Department is a nationally accredited, through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies Inc. (CALEA), and State of Connecticut Accredited agency providing law enforcement and public safety services to Simsbury residents 24 hours a day, seven days a week, including operation of the E-911 Public Safety Answering Point. The department employs 36 sworn officers, 10 full-time and two part-time civilian employees. The department provides a full range of services with 35 first responders and two Emergency Medical Technicians. During fiscal year 2013-2014 there were 31,256 calls for service with an average response time of approximately three minutes for medical calls. The department is staffed by highly qualified and extensively trained personnel. Department personnel received 3,477 hours of training during fiscal year 2013-2014.

During fiscal year 2013-2014, the Simsbury Police Department achieved its goal to retain National Accreditation status through CALEA. This process concluded in April 2014 with an onsite review of department policies and procedures by assessors from CALEA. Successful retention of National Accreditation status allows the Simsbury Police Department to remain within an elite group of police agencies in the state that offer the most current and professional law enforcement to the communities that they serve. The department will continuously work towards remaining accredited at both the State and National levels.

The officers and civilian members of the department are proud of their work and the relationships that they have established with the community, and look forward to continuing and expanding these positive associations by

Photo top, The Simsbury Police Department began offering Project Lifesaver, which provides tracking devices to voluntary participants who may have a tendency to wander due to dementia, certain traumatic brain injuries or other conditions. Right, The Junior Police Academy continues to be a popular program offered by the Simsbury Police Department.

providing not only routine police services on a daily basis, but also with programs like the Citizens Police Academy and Alumni programs, Junior Police Academy, senior picnic, skate-and-share, Explorer Program, ride-a-long program, Special Olympics, tip-a-cop, and Salvation Army Holiday Store Stuff-a-Cruiser.

One of the most important child safety programs continues to be the child car seat inspection, which is well utilized by Simsbury residents and the residents of surrounding communities. The department and its members have served the community for well over 50 years and the goal of ensuring the safety of Simsbury's residents and visitors is the department's first priority. It is the department's mission to always strive to increase the



quality and level of service to residents, and to be worthy of the community's continued pride. The department's concentration is to ensure that the residents of Simsbury have a police department that is steadfastly focused on community safety and can always be relied upon to provide stellar service.

Simsbury Police Department Incident Statistics

	'09-'10	'10-'11	'11-'12	'12-'13	'13-'14
Part I Crimes	221	136	188	189	169
Motor Vehicle Accidents	661	723	625	510	651
Medical Calls	1,300	1,370	1,444	1,430	1,544
Motor Vehicle Enforcement	4,740	4,394	3,940	3,167	2,980
Alarm Responses	837	840	879	810	789
Total Incidents	28,139	29,890	33,311	36,171	31,256

2013-2014 Accomplishments

The second full-time School Resource Officer (SRO) position was filled and began servicing the middle school and all elementary schools at the commencement of the school year (fall 2013). Through the SRO program, some public school students created Halloween safety flyers for distribution at the school, through the SRO during presentations at schools, and through the police website and a press release. The second SRO has also been involved in health classes discussing Internet, social media and bullying issues. The SROs facilitated a school based "toy drive" event during the holiday season.

The second half of the fiscal year has shown continued efforts to promote public safety values within the schools. Patrol Officer Jason Trombly organized a bike safety initiative for youth and SRO Todd Kushman involved students to help create ice cream vouchers for officers to hand out for the initiative. SRO Brad Chase used the variable message signs on high school grounds to promote safety. Officer Lauren Devin (acting Community Services Officer) began teaching classes through the Avon Driving School again. The department had an open house on June 19, 2014 that included a "Touch a Truck" event for police vehicles.

The department initiated communication and planning with Westminster School for an "active shooter" training on its campus. The training involved school personnel and each of the three emergency responder agencies in town (police, fire and ambulance).

The department is very proud that in FY 2013-2014 it received, for the second year in a row, two Traffic Safety Law Enforcement Challenge Awards: Best Overall in the Occupant Protection Safety Program and 2nd Place in the Municipal 3 Category. The Law Enforcement Challenge is difficult to win and these awards represent a great deal of work and dedication.

The department applied for and received a grant totaling \$8,730 to support the third year of the "Bowling with Badges" youth program. This program promotes positive interaction between youths and police officers in a casual, relaxed setting.

The department successfully held its annual community programs and events (Citizens Police Academy, Junior Police Academy, skate and share, Turkey Trot, senior picnic, stuff a cruiser, job shadow day, Top Dog Contest, etc.).

The department provided a car seat clinic at CHUBB for its employees and family members. The website has been updated on a regular basis with press releases, crime alerts and safety information (arrests, car break-ins, Halloween safety, holiday season safety, etc.), and the addition of the police Facebook page. The department has also maintained the home/business security surveys.

The Simsbury Police Department is actively participating in bike safety. The department provided services to students and adults participating in each of the three bike/walk to school events in May. The programs have included up-to-date information/changes to the PD website and Facebook.

The department purchased a bicycle repair station to be mounted on the bike path in the area of Rotary Park.

Simsbury police provided a "Social Media and Safety" class to hundreds of Citizen Police Academy alumni at the high school.

The department maintained a college internship program through FY 2014 from local colleges by providing semester-long internships to one student in the fall and two students in the spring. The department also participated in recruitment events/fairs throughout the region.

The department provides officers with training in a variety of areas. Two such areas are communications and mental health. The Crisis Intervention Training program (one week program) and Responding to Situations Involving People with Mental Illness (one day class) are two core programs that the department has embraced. These programs, in addition to established annual mental health training, have been a benefit to the delivery of service.

An emergency notification system policy was created, approved and distributed department wide. Two officers attended training relating to communications and cultural diversity. Dispatchers attended training (such as active shooter and suicide prevention) that involved communications. Members of the department attended a town-provided suicide prevention/awareness training on two occasions.

The department has undertaken a Lethality Assessment Program to assist victims of domestic violence. It provides guidance and direction for providing services based on a response to specific questions and providing immediate and direct access to support services to provide emergency

shelter, transportation and safety plans. One new sergeant attended First Line Supervision training, which provided some communication-based curriculum. Two new supervisors completed on-line training relating to Employee Assistance Programs. One detective attended a weeklong class called "Finding Words" to assist with forensic interviews of children. One dispatcher attended a training class for dealing with hostage negotiations.

Since January 2012, the department has maintained a medication disposal program that allows for a safe and secure way for people to dispose of expired, unwanted or unused medications. In FY 2014, the department collected over 700 pounds of medication. In FY 2014, the department regionalized efforts to dispose of the medication with two surrounding communities.

With the continuation of the dedicated traffic officer the town is able to readily respond to citizen's concerns regarding motor vehicle speeding. Simsbury continues to see decreases in motor vehicle speeding in town and began focusing on areas with greater numbers of traffic related motor vehicle accidents.

2014-2015 Goals

- To strengthen community involvement through education and promoting concepts of participation and volunteerism.
- To maintain and increase technology based equipment and opportunities that support the highest quality of police service.
- To provide safe public roadways through an increase in education, compliance checks and enforcement.



Top left photo, during fiscal year 2013-2014, the Simsbury Police Department achieved its goal to retain National Accreditation status through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). From the left, CALEA Commissioner Stephen DeBenedittis, former mayor of the Town of Herndon, Virginia; Simsbury Police Officer Tracy Dunne; Captain Nicholas Boulter and President/Chairperson for the Commission Grayson Robinson, former Sheriff of the Arapahoe County, Colorado Sheriff's Office. Top right photo, every year the police department works with various groups to help collect toys during the holidays for those in need. This drive was in combination with Simsbury High School. Left photo, the police department provides car seat clinics. People can make appointments to ensure their child car seats are installed properly.

PROBATE COURT

The Simsbury Regional Probate District encompasses the towns of Avon, Canton, Granby and Simsbury and is located in Simsbury Town Hall. Cynthia C. Becker, former judge for the Avon Probate Court, was elected as judge of the Simsbury Regional Probate District for the term commencing January 5, 2011.

The mission of the Simsbury Regional Probate Court is to assist individuals and families residing in the district who require the services of the court in an efficient and compassionate manner. The probate court strives to ease the process as much as possible knowing that during stressful times it is difficult to cope with the unknown.

Although the staff and judge cannot provide legal advice to the users of the court, informational pamphlets are available and questions are always welcome. In addition, Judge Becker, in her capacity as Judge of Probate, is available to speak to community groups about probate matters.

Jurisdiction of the Court

Connecticut probate courts have jurisdiction over probating of wills, administration and settlement of decedent's estates, overseeing the carrying out of the terms and provisions of testamentary and living (inter vivos) trusts, and reviewing the accountings of trustees. In addition, probate courts appoint, supervise and remove conservators of the person and estate of individuals incapable of managing their personal or financial affairs due to mental or physical disability. These areas represent over half of the Simsbury Regional Probate Court's workload.

The probate court also has jurisdiction over the appointment and supervision of guardians of the property and persons of minors and persons with developmental disabilities; the removal of unfit parents as guardians of their children; the termination of parental rights of parents who cannot fulfill their parental responsibilities; the adjudication of paternity of children born out of wedlock and the finalization of adoptions. These matters make up about one third of the court's caseload, but are some of the most sensitive and time-consuming responsibilities of the court.

While probate courts have jurisdiction to authorize the commitment of those suffering from mental illness, or drug or alcohol addiction to appropriate hospitals or facilities for treatment, these cases represent a small percentage of the court's workload due mainly to the absence of psychiatric facilities in the region.

New Developments

The Connecticut Probate Assembly revised the Probate Practice Book, which means that the users of the probate court will find there have been some procedural changes and new forms. The new Probate Court Rules of Procedure went into effect July 1, 2013. A complete copy of the Probate Court Rules of Procedure can be found at the judicial website: <http://www.ctprobate.gov/Pages/Statutes-and-Rules-of-Procedure.aspx> and a list of the

new probate court forms can be found at <http://www.ctprobate.gov/Pages/Probate-Court-Forms.aspx>.

2013-2014 Workload of Court

During the past year, 197 applications were accepted for probate of decedent's estates. In addition, 156 small estate affidavits and tax purposes only estates were filed. The court also processed 43 applications for conservatorships, and several applications for guardianships of the estate and person of minors, guardianships of the intellectually disabled, termination of parental rights, approval of adoptions, name changes and inter vivos trust matters.

Court Contact Information

The probate court is located at the Simsbury Town Hall, 933 Hopmeadow Street, and is open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Online information about the courts is available on the website, www.jud.ct.gov, click on "Probate." Many of the forms used by the probate courts are now available through the website.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The Simsbury Public Works Department is comprised of five divisions: administrative, highway, building and grounds, landfill and recycling, and water pollution control. The department has a combined staff of 38 and has a \$6.4 million combined operating budget. The administrative division has responsibility for budget preparation, administration, operational planning, contracting, purchasing, and personnel.

Highway Department

The highway department maintains 165 miles of town accepted roadways including 3,850 catch basins, the storm drainage system, roadside mowing, sign and guide-rail maintenance, and care for trees within the town's roadway right of way. The highway department also performs fleet maintenance for all vehicles and heavy equipment utilized by the public works department, as well as the engineering, building, and police departments. Some fleet maintenance has also been performed for the board of education in an attempt to help control costs for that department.

The department has been working to continue to improve the quality of the town's roadways. This past year, the department was able to pave 9.04 miles of roadway.

Drainage crews rebuilt 183 catch basin structures and replaced 1,650 linear feet of drainage pipe to provide adequate roadway drainage. Most of this work was in conjunction with the paving program to assure that the structures below the newly paved road will not fail, requiring excavation of the newly paved roadway.

The highway department continued its tree work along town roadways. The department is working to protect residents from accidents or injuries resulting from falling trees and limbs. The department has also worked closely with CL&P on its tree trimming and removal programs.

As part of the state Department of Energy and

Environmental Protection's (DEEP) small municipal, storm sewer system program, 250 catch basins and 10 sediment chambers were cleaned, along with the sweeping of all streets.

The department has also continued its popular "snow plow ride along" program that allows interested residents to get a first-hand look at the town's snowplow operations.

Building and Grounds

Building maintenance is responsible for four town buildings (Simsbury Town Hall, the Simsbury Public Library, Eno Memorial Hall, and Scout Hall), six rental properties, a service facility, a commuter bus shelter, and the Old Tariffville Cemetery.

The department is proud to report that the town's low-income rental housing units are again at full capacity this year. The units have been continuously updated, which allows the town to provide opportunities for affordable housing.

Roofs at both town hall and Eno have been replaced this year. This work is critical to the longevity of these facilities.

Landfill and Recycling

The Simsbury landfill at 66 Wolcott Road is permitted by the state DEEP for operation as a bulky waste and recycling materials transfer station. The town conducts annual monitoring of ground water and storm water at this site and the site is also used as a composting area. An area for residents to pickup leaf compost and woodchips is available at the facility at no cost to residents.

The town hosted two household hazardous waste collection days in conjunction with the Avon, Granby, and Canton. A combined total of 1,030 residents participated





with 573 residents from Simsbury. The town's costs have been reduced by more than half from when Simsbury participated in the MDC collection. Simsbury's residents continue to show a willingness to dispose of their household wastes responsibly.

Simsbury adopted new recycling ordinances and started a residential recycling registration program, which not only increases recycling rates, but also allows for flexibility for trash haulers collecting recyclables that ultimately allows for lower trash collection costs for residents.

A paint-recycling program through PaintCare was implemented at the bulky waste facility. This program allows residents to dispose of paints and stain at no cost. All of the paint collected will be recycled and re-used.

Water Pollution Control

Simsbury Water Pollution Control (SWPC) is a customer-funded utility owned and operated by the Town of Simsbury. The towns of Avon and Granby are also co-owners of the treatment facility. SWPC is responsible for the operation and maintenance of more than 80 miles of collection system, five pumping stations and the treatment facility. A superintendent, an assistant superintendent, five operators, two maintainers, an administrative secretary, and an engineering technician staff the department. During the summer, seasonal staff is used primarily for easement maintenance.

The treatment facility is designed to provide biological nitrogen removal. During the reporting interval the discharge limits were achieved, with insignificant exceptions. Generally dry conditions during the reporting period resulted in lower average daily flows and slightly elevated pollutant concentrations.

During the reporting period, wastewater treatment for a population equivalent of 16,251 was provided. In addition to clean water, the byproduct of treatment is sludge. An average of 45 dry tons of dewatered sludge per month

was transported to the Metropolitan District Commission's Hartford facility for incineration.

The state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) developed a phosphorus limit for wastewater treatment facilities that discharge to receiving streams with impoundments (Rainbow Reservoir) or impaired water quality. Simsbury WPC received a total phosphorus limit with the renewal of its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit in 2013. The new permit total maximum daily load for phosphorus is 2.5 mg/l or 46.95 lbs. per day. Staff has modified the operation of the biological process and the proposed phosphorus limit is being achieved with current flows.

Sewer easement maintenance continues to be a priority. The easements need to be kept open and free of vegetation to allow access for inspection and maintenance.

2013-2014 Accomplishments

- Received \$11,751 for sale of nitrogen credits.
- A new operator and superintendent were hired to fill vacancies.
- Sewer easement maintenance was continued.
- Completed several sewer allocation analyses for proposed development in the sewer service area.
- Purchased Kubota tractor for sewer easement maintenance.
- A number of tours were provided to Simsbury school groups throughout the year.

2014-2015 Goals

- Complete flow assessment of north interceptor for planned improvements.
- Complete the construction phase of the Tunxis Pump Station replacement project.
- Complete rehabilitation of the Wolcott Pumping Station.
- Establish collection system cleaning and video inspection program to prioritize system maintenance and repairs.
- Design, permit, and obtain funding to stabilize the

Farmington River stream bank in the Hazel Meadow area.

- Enhance and expand safety-training efforts.
- Tours of the Water Pollution Control Facility can be scheduled by calling 860-658-3258. Public information presentations are also available to groups. Information on connections, permits, or sewer line locations can be obtained by visiting the facility on Drake Hill Road or calling 860-658-1380.

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS/ ELECTION ADMINISTRATORS

The Secretary of the State's office and state statute governs the operations of the office of the Simsbury Registrars of Voters. The registrars are jointly responsible for the administration of state election laws.

They direct all local, state and federal elections and primaries, and the town's budget referendum, including staffing, equipment testing and operation, absentee voter counting, reporting of results, and records retention. Registrars supervise voter registration, maintain the list of qualified electors, and conduct the annual canvass of registered voters.

Some 350 residents were enrolled as new voters from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014, including over 60 Simsbury High School students who were enrolled during a special session held in May at the school.

During the 2014 fiscal year, the registrars of voters administered the November 2013 municipal election, and subsequent post-election audit, and the May budget referendum.

Simsbury participated in an expanded pilot program to test live online election night reporting for the November municipal election. The program is part of the Connecticut Secretary of the State's initiative to improve voting efficiency.

Following the municipal election, the registrars supervised a hand count audit of ballots cast at Tootin' Hills Elementary School. Pursuant to Public Act 07-194, mandatory post-election hand count audits are to be conducted by registrars of voters in 10 percent of the voting districts randomly selected to participate. The primary

Voter Registration Summary

Town of Simsbury January 15, 2014

Democratic:	4,789
Republican:	5,174
Unaffiliated:	6,021
Other:	87
TOTAL:	16,071

ADF: Average Daily Flow

CBOD: Carbonaceous

Biochemical Oxygen Demand

TSS: Total Suspended Solids

TN: Total Nitrogen

TP: Total Phosphorous

Water Pollution Control

Parameter	Influent	Permit Limit	Effluent 1/1/13 to 12/31/13
ADF, mgd	—	3.8	1.90
CBOD, mg/L	185	25	3
TSS, mg/L	257	30	4
TN, lb/day	612	112	46
TP, lb/day	77	47	18

ADF: Average Daily Flow, CBOD: Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand, TSS: Total Suspended Solids, TN: Total Nitrogen, TP: Total Phosphorous

purpose of the hand count audit is to assess how well the optical scan voting machines functioned in an actual election and to ensure that votes cast using these machines are counted properly and accurately.

The registrars continue to work with the government and elections administration committee of the Connecticut General Assembly to reduce statute-driven mandates, and increase election-reporting efficiency. In 2014, the Connecticut General Assembly passed legislation allowing the use of electronic poll books. Simsbury had previously served as a pilot site for electronic poll books, and the registrars were actively involved in lobbying for the passage of the bill.

During the 2014-2015 budget year, Simsbury voters will cast ballots in gubernatorial and congressional primaries, the 2014 state election and the 2015 budget referendum. Projections for 2014-2015 therefore include costs for the annual canvass of registered voters, gubernatorial and congressional primaries, the state election, a potential ballot audit, and the 2015 budget referendum.

The Simsbury Registrars of Voters are Margaret C. Diachenko, Republican Registrar; Karen E. Cortés, Democratic Registrar.

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

The Simsbury Social Services Department provides assistance to families, youth and senior residents in a professional and confidential manner.

This has been another difficult year for Simsbury families, as the town continues to see an increase in requests for assistance, especially food. Thankfully, the department has been able to meet this need thanks to the continued generosity of the residents of Simsbury.

The department offers a variety of services to Simsbury residents, including: financial and medical assistance, cheese day, bread day, the food closet, mobile Foodshare, energy assistance, emergency shelter, counseling, eviction assistance, medical transportation, renter's rebate, family therapy, youth services, notary services, trigger locks for firearms, cell phones, and emergency beacon lights.

The department provides vital services to the town's senior population through its senior outreach program, provides transportation to seniors and persons with disabilities five days per week through the Dial-A-Ride Program, and operates an active and diverse senior center for residents over 50 years of age.

In situations such as power outages, social services has developed a Neighbor-To-Neighbor Program, which involves 15 call captains who check on more than 6,000 Simsbury residents. Additionally, the department initiates the opening of cooling and warming centers when weather conditions are extreme.

The youth service bureau continues to sponsor substance abuse awareness programs, character development and mentoring programs, Family Day, Skate and Share, intergenerational programs with the senior center, and anti-distracted driving campaigns.

The department's work continues to be generously



Top photo, There are many people who volunteer at the social services department's cheese day food program. Right, Senior center volunteer Anne Marroni.

supported by donations of time, money, food, gifts, and other products from various civic organizations, businesses, churches, schools, families, and individuals. Special thanks to the First Church of Christ Simsbury for the many dedicated volunteers who distribute food from the bi-weekly mobile Foodshare van. A special thank you to Fitzgerald's Foods, Panera Bread, Brookside Bagels, Simsbury Market, Starbucks and Kentucky Fried Chicken for their weekly donations, and to Stop & Shop for their generous financial and food donations throughout the year.

Since the majority of the assistance programs are funded by donations, the department would like to thank the many Simsbury residents who have made financial contributions during the year. It is through such generosity that social services has the ability to assist Simsbury neighbors who continue to struggle.

Senior Center

The mission of the Simsbury Senior Center is to provide a community focal point where older adults come together for programs that reflect their experience and skills, respond to their diverse needs and interests, enhance their dignity, support their independence, and encourage their involvement in and with the center and their community.

The senior center offers opportunities for health and wellness with the use of a fitness center and exercise classes for varied fitness levels. Health screenings and clinics are offered for blood pressure, hearing, vision, flu and pneumonia vaccines.

A variety of educational and informational programs are offered, including a writing group, book club, computer/technology classes, an investment group, and guest lecturers. Opportunities to participate in artistic and creative programs are available with such activities as painting,



choral singing, ceramics, drumming circles, and jewelry making. A variety of ongoing recreational and social activities are offered as well as special events to celebrate holidays and special occasions. The senior center offers noontime dining twice a week. These popular meals provide guests with nutritious seasonal meals and an opportunity to socialize with peers.

The center continues to partner with the Simsbury Public Schools, St. Mary's School, Westminster School and The Master's School to offer opportunities that link students with older adults. The center offers a wide variety of local trips to theaters, museums, shopping centers, sporting events, restaurants, concerts, and area special events. The center provides assistance and support with income tax, health insurance and mature driving safety.

The senior center successfully implemented a new program registration system that gives users the flexibility to pay for programs and activities with a credit card and the convenience of registering online.

The Simsbury Senior Center welcomes all members of the diverse and growing older adult population (age 50 and over), their families and friends.



Top photo, Peggy Jenks and Jim Vassallo celebrate New Year's Eve at the senior center. Left, The Simsbury Social Services Department provides all sort of assistance, including food, to families, youth and senior residents in a professional and confidential manner. Bottom, Donated food items for the social services department's cheese day food program abound in Eno Memorial Hall.

Dial-A-Ride Program

For the past 34 years, the Simsbury Social Services Department has provided transportation to Simsbury's seniors and persons with disabilities. Buses run daily, Monday through Friday, and provide door-to-door transportation around Simsbury for such things as shopping, hair appointments, visiting the senior center, library visits and attending local events. The program provides transportation to medical appointments in Simsbury, Avon and Granby; and shopping trips to Simsbury Commons as well as stores along Route 44. Additionally, the program provides rides for persons with disabilities to their places of employment. During the 2013-

2014 fiscal year 9,405 passengers requested 8,737 trips, and traveled 48,799 miles.

During 2013-2014 the social services department received a state Department of Transportation grant to provide additional Dial-A-Ride service. With these grant funds, enhanced Dial-A-Ride provided 304 out-of-town medical trips and 28 senior center trips. A total of 904 passengers utilized the enhanced service, and traveled 14,561 miles. The program has developed a local transportation resource list for residents to use. Anyone unable to afford the cost of medical transportation may apply to the social services department for assistance.

In addition, the department was able to purchase a new 2014 Dial-A-Ride bus. The funds for this purchase came from a large bequest from Simsbury resident Miriam Nichols and other Dial-A-Ride donations.

Due to the increased cost of transportation, the department began using a Dial-A-Ride pass system. This annual pass, for a donation of \$25 for an individual and \$35 for a couple, provides unlimited use of the Dial-A-Ride system, as well as two out-of-town medical trips per month.

The department also has Vets-Helping-Vets, a volunteer program, which matches Simsbury veterans and provides transportation to the veterans' affairs complex in Newington. Special thanks to the many veterans who have volunteered for this program.

Dial-A-Ride reservations can be made by calling 860-693-6876 between 8 a.m. and noon at least 24 hours in advance.

Senior Outreach Program

The senior outreach program provides many services to Simsbury seniors and persons with disabilities. Information, guidance and referrals are given to residents and their families regarding local, state and federal resources that they may benefit from. Home visits are made and information is given on services including homeware, alternate housing and medical and financial assistance. Assistance is provided with state and federal applications, including energy assistance and Social Security programs. Emergency 911 medical incident reports are provided by the Simsbury Police Department and follow-up phone calls and visits are made to find those who may be at risk or in need of services. Senior outreach continues to update its emergency call list of seniors and persons with disabilities, which is activated each time the town experience severe weather conditions. Senior outreach encourages residents to register for the Connecticut and Simsbury Alert Systems.

In addition, the friendly visitor component matches community volunteers with the homebound to make weekly visits offering socialization, comfort and friendship. Successful matches have been made throughout the year, resulting in 21 volunteers who made 617 visits. The department will continue to strive to better serve residents with the continued assistance from the town's wonderful and committed volunteers who help to make department programs so successful.



Top photo, Simsbury Police Chief Peter N. Ingvertsen with Mary Donahue at the annual police picnic. Below, Chief Ingvertsen with Edna Schreindorfer and Pauline Henderson at the annual police picnic.



The Pinchot Sycamore, nestled in a small park on the Farmington River, just where Route 185 crosses over the river, is the largest tree in Connecticut. The tree is named after Gifford Pinchot, who was born in Simsbury in 1865, in what is now the Simsbury 1820 House. He later served as the nation's first chief of the U.S. Forest Service, as well as governor of Pennsylvania for two terms. He was an ardent environmental preservationist. Many people launch their canoes and kayak's from this park.

TAX DEPARTMENT

Taxes, a compulsory governmental charge for the purpose of defraying the cost of services provided for common benefit, is the major source of revenue for town government.

As such, the tax collector is responsible for the financial well-being of the town, which is the backbone of the municipality in regards to the fiscal debt and bonding capacity. The tax collector collects both current and delinquent taxes for real estate and motor vehicle, sewer use and sewer/water assessments. The department is also responsible for the collections and balancing of all fire district taxes.

These duties, when performed in an efficient manner, should reflect the financial health of the town, which is the mainstay of any municipality in regard to the fiscal debt and bonding capacity.

Concern and understanding continue to be the department's driving force. The department also strives for quality personal contact with the taxpayer. If at any time

2013 Grand List Mill Rate

Town	37.14
Fire District	1.19
Total	38.33
Total dollar amount to be collected for town taxes, fire district and sewer use fees: \$87,961,537.	

there is a problem or concern please feel free to contact the department at 860-658-3238.

2013-2014 Accomplishments

Online bill payments have increased 38 percent over last year and again the tax collection rate was over 99 percent.

TOWN CLERK

The Simsbury Town Clerk's Office receives and maintains extensive records concerning real estate transactions; births, deaths, and marriages; elections, primaries and referenda; meeting minutes for town boards and commissions; military discharges; hunting and fishing sport licenses; dog licenses; liquor licenses; notaries public; justices of the peace; trade name certificates; and primary, permanent documents, which date back to the 17th century that record the history of the town. The town clerk's office provides thousands

of copies of original records to professionals who use the records to conduct business, and to the public. State statutes, the town charter, and local ordinances govern the implementation of duties for the office.

At the May 6, 2014, referendum, 7.7 percent of electors voted. A majority of the voters approved fiscal year 2014-2015 operating budgets totaling \$97,035,472: general government for \$18,711,363; board of education for \$65,602,817; and sewer use, residential rental

properties, Simsbury Farms/special programs, non-public schools, debt retirement and capital non-recurring funds for \$12,721,292. At the referendum, the voters approved three capital projects: acquisition of 42 acres of open space from the Ethel Walker School for \$1,150,000; repair, repaving and rehabilitation of town roadways for \$2,500,000; and renovation of Squadron Line Elementary School for \$1,050,000.

At the November 5, 2013, municipal election, 39.8 percent of

Town Clerk Statistics for Fiscal Year 2013-2014

Military Discharges	12
Trade Names	86
Birth Certificates	172
Death Certificates	197
Marriage Licenses	282
Dog Licenses	2,311
Land Record Pages	17,298
Total Revenues*	\$773,308

*The Town of Simsbury forwarded 30% of these revenues to various state agencies in accordance with the General Statutes of Connecticut.

Simsbury electors turned out to vote for the offices of: first selectman, board of selectmen, board of finance, board of education, board of assessment appeals, planning commission, zoning commission, zoning board of appeals and alternate, and library board of trustees.

2013-2104 Accomplishments

In September 2013, the town clerk's office completed a project partially funded by a \$4,000 grant from the Connecticut State Library. The project comprised scanning over 179,000 pages from 124 land record books and linking the images to an existing index. Now, scanned images of land record pages are available at the town clerk's office or online from August 1987 to the current week.

These scanned images of land records help title searchers and residents by providing an immediate visual record to peruse at the town hall or from an Internet accessible device, and by allowing for rapid copying of pages, thereby saving time and travel expense. Copies may be made without lifting heavy books, taking the books apart and reassembling them, which saves wear and tear on these permanent records. The scanned images help town clerk staff by providing an immediate visual record to assist in answering questions over the phone or in person, by freeing up staff time because the process is more self-service oriented, and by providing a more user-friendly climate in which to work.

Revenues for copies of these records are collected at the same rate whether made from the books at town hall or downloaded from an online image. Land record copy fees are important because these fees cover the costs to maintain the indexing system and the online service, to purchase ink, labels, paper and binders for permanent hardcopies, and to microfilm and store security back-up images.

In cooperation with Simsbury Police Chief Peter N. Ingvertsen, Animal Control Officer Mark Rudewicz, and the Simsbury Police Department, the office conducted its 13th Top Dog Contest during May 2014. The four happy winners received doggie treats, and their owners received a 2014 dog license at no charge.

2014-2105 Goals

A major goal for fiscal year 2014-2015 will be to extend the life of the town clerk's vault, within the existing footprint, for at least another decade. The project will make it possible to consolidate probate court records in one area within the vault. The renovation project will include removal or reuse of old shelving units. Removed units will be replaced by new rolling shelves, which will be designed to hold all existing land record books and to provide space for over 200 more.



Photos left; Winners of the 13th Top Dog Contest include: Chupie, smallest dog; Jake, most handsome dog; Sherlock, cutest dog; and Rosie, biggest dog.

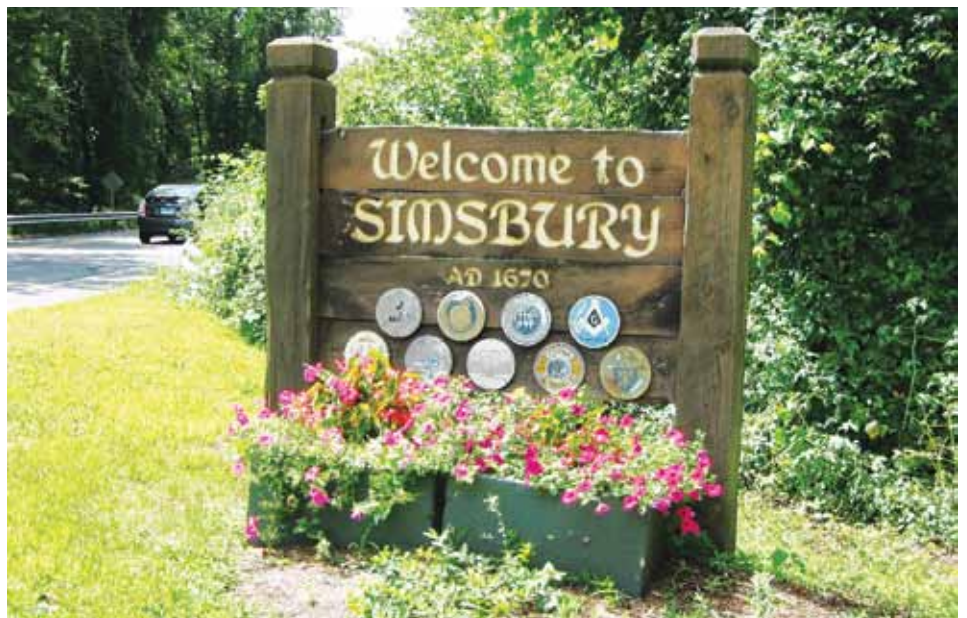
Boards and Commissions

AGING AND DISABILITY COMMISSION

The Simsbury Aging and Disability Commission is an advisory group whose purpose is to study the needs of and evaluate services and events designed to enhance the quality of life for Simsbury's older adults and individuals who are disabled. Its focus is to be advocates for the elderly and disabled by promoting sources that provide appropriate information, assistance and support services.

2013-2014 Accomplishments

- The commission continued to work in concert with the Regan Development Corporation with regard to the development of 48 units of housing for persons with disabilities. The housing will be located at Dorsett Crossing on Hopmeadow Street.
- At the request of the commission, the board of selectman designated the month of June as Handicapped Parking Awareness Month.
- The commission worked in concert with the Senior Job Bank to once again reestablish a presence in Simsbury.
- The commission, through the efforts of the chairman of the public relations subcommittee, continued running regular press releases on its programs and activities.
- The commission continued to consult with the registrars of voters to discuss ways of making the polling stations in town more accessible.
- Members of the commission continued to provide consultation to the town with regard to the development of a new senior center.
- The principal of the Simsbury High School reappointed a senior year student to act as the student liaison to the commission.
- The commission's Picnic in the Park event, which is a community event for persons with disabilities their friends and families, was held in August at St. Catherine of Siena Church in West Simsbury. Approximately 90 individuals attended.
- The commission sponsored Souper Tuesday luncheons seven times at the senior center. The luncheon consists of a special soup, sandwich and dessert and is rounded out by local entertainment. Approximately 600 seniors attended the Souper Tuesday luncheons.
- The commission received \$1,500 from the social services department to provide additional Souper Tuesday luncheons as well as to offset the costs of the Picnic in the Park event.
- Members of the commission participated on the senior outreach committee along with the Simsbury Board of Education and Simsbury Social Services Department. The senior outreach program provides opportunities for



- seniors to participate in school activities free of charge.
- The commission provided consultation and support to the coordinator of the Simsbury Senior Center.
 - The commission, in an effort to keep abreast of current happenings in the field of seniors and persons with disabilities, had as its guest several community speakers who are acknowledged as experts in their field.
- The aging and disability commission would like to thank the following community organizations for their financial support of Souper Tuesday and Picnic in the Park:
- Simsbury Lions Club
 - Simsbury Granby Rotary Club
 - First Church of Christ
 - Civitan Club of Simsbury
 - Simsbury Woman's Club

2014-2015 Goals

- Work in concert with the Town of Simsbury to develop and implement a plan for a new senior center.
- Advocate for affordable housing for seniors and persons with disabilities.
- Continue to ensure that all town buildings and properties are accessible to persons with disabilities and seniors.
- Investigate accessible transportation options for seniors and persons with disabilities.
- Advocate for senior tax relief while informing seniors of existing programs.
- Work in concert with the town's emergency management team to investigate and implement programs that will ensure the safety and security of seniors and persons with disabilities.
- Work in concert with the Simsbury Public Schools for the purpose of providing senior outreach programs.
- Recognize community members who make positive contributions to the town's seniors and persons with disabilities, as well as businesses that do the same.
- Work in concert with the registrars of voters to ensure

Above, The Simsbury Beautification Committee maintains the welcome sign on Rt. 185. Photo below, Beautification committee members keep planters, such as this one outside of town hall, overflowing with annuals, as well as chrysanthemums, and later, winter greenery.

polling places are accessible to persons with disabilities and seniors.

- Serve as a resource to Simsbury businesses on issues that impact seniors and individuals with disabilities as it relates to purchasing goods and services.
- Work with state and local officials to advocate for legislation related to seniors and individuals with disabilities.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Nearly 60 volunteers for the Simsbury Beautification Committee plant and maintain gardens and planters in public spaces throughout the town, including Simsbury Town Hall, Simsbury Public Library, Schultz Park, the Simsbury Farms Recreation Center and golf course, Eno Memorial Hall and numerous traffic islands and triangles. Each member adopts a site and is responsible for it throughout the year. These activities are funded by the town.

Each May members plant a variety of annuals, perennials and shrubs in their garden site. Throughout



the spring, summer and early fall they water, fertilize and groom their gardens, and in autumn, those who have adopted planters replace spent annuals with chrysanthemums and later with winter greenery.

In November 2013, co-chairs Judy Larkin and Candace Petersen stepped down after two years in that position and Elizabeth Burt became chair. In January 2014, the committee launched its webpage, which includes a regularly updated slide show of committee gardens.

The committee welcomes new recruits to assist in its projects and replace members who can no longer participate. Volunteer forms and information can be found at the Simsbury Public Library and at the committee's webpage: <http://www.simsbury-ct.gov/simsbury-beautification-committee>.

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

The Simsbury Board of Assessment Appeals is an elected board of three individuals, which hears appeals of property tax valuations. The board meets twice a year, hearing homeowner, other real estate, and personal property and automobile appeals in March (or April), and in September for automobiles only. The board works closely with the town assessor's office.

The members of the board were Scott Sirianni, Sharon Lawson and Stephen Nocera. Nocera served as chairman.

In September 2013, the board heard 33 automobile appeals. During March 2014, the board heard 12 homeowner appeals, two appeals from commercial property holders, one industrial property appeal, one apartment property appeal, eight automobile appeals, and one personal property appeal.

The board heard 35 motor vehicle appeals on the 2013 grand list, and determined one assessment for the 2013 motor vehicle list during its September 2014 meetings.

BUILDING CODE BOARD OF APPEALS

The Simsbury Building Code Board of Appeals, in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes, meets at the written request of an appellant or other aggrieved party to review that appellant's challenge to the interpretation of the Connecticut State Building Code by the Simsbury Building Official.

Procedurally, a written appeal must be filed by the appellant stipulating the specific sections of the Connecticut State Building Code being challenged citing reasons and must be delivered to the Simsbury Building Official for action. Once notified by the building official, the chairman of the building code board of appeals must convene a meeting within five working days to act on the specific appeal.

The town's Clean Energy Task Force, in conjunction with the Town of Simsbury, submitted a proposal to be part of the state's Solarize campaign.

A simple majority vote by board members at the conclusion of the meeting will affirm, modify, or reverse the decision of the building official and a formal Notice of Decision is filed with the town with copies to the appellant and the building official.

Appeals are subject to the FOIA requirements of public notification in town hall stipulating dates, time and location for the meeting.

There are five regular members and two alternates appointed by the board of selectmen. Four members must have the qualification of a minimum five years experience in either building design, building construction, or supervision of building construction, and a fifth member to serve from the general public. Membership appointments are for a period of five years and staggered for membership continuity. A quorum consists of not less than three members.

The building code board of appeals meets at a minimum annually to elect a chairman and deputy chairman from its membership and review any changes to the applicable codes; otherwise the panel meets on an as-needed basis.

CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE

Simsbury's Clean Energy Task Force (CETF), created by the board of selectmen in 2008, is charged with overseeing the town's commitment to new, sustainable, green initiatives and clean, alternate energy sources. The CETF is currently comprised of six members: Patrick Boeshans, Susan Van Kleef, James A. Ray, Bob Beinstein, Claudia Szerakowski and Melissa Valentin. Valentin is resigning with Mark Scully named to take her place. The CETF has also maintained an association with the Simsbury schools in supporting their energy related projects. Simsbury's Director of Public Works Tom Roy has continued to be liaison with the town along with a representative of the board of

selectman, Michael Paine.

In 2010, the CETF created and implemented the first in a series of clean energy initiatives funded through a generous donation from Aquarion Water Company designed to underwrite future sustainable initiatives. Additionally, two \$2,000 grants have been received from the State of Connecticut. These funds have enabled the CETF to support various sustainable initiatives with Simsbury schools and provide for various activities to inform local businesses and the community about sustainability.

2013-2014 Accomplishments

- **Solarize Simsbury campaign:** The clean energy task force in conjunction with the Town of Simsbury submitted a proposal to be part of the state's Solarize campaign. Simsbury was selected as one of the towns to conduct the campaign in its community. This campaign provides for residential solar installations with state and federal incentives plus a discounted cost based on large scale Simsbury community involvement. The state allows a very specific time period with it ending in September 2014. In order to accomplish all that was required, this became the main focus of CETF during this time. With several meetings with state designated representatives, participation in the state's selection of the solar installer (local Simsbury firm C-Tec Solar was selected), organized community meetings, recruitment of solar ambassadors (those who already have solar installations), promotional events and overall publicity, this required considerable extra effort.
- **Shared Solar:** The task force is supporting the shared solar legislation that is being introduced within the state legislature as another option where an individual solar installation is not feasible. The legislature did not enact a residential program this last session, but did so for municipalities. CETF supported a small budget



for Simsbury site investigations that will be performed within the next year for a possible town shared solar installation.

- Clean Energy Options Program (ongoing): The CETF continued to support the Clean Energy Communities program providing the opportunity for Simsbury residents to choose to bring clean, renewable energy into the power grid. Electrical power is currently generated in New England through natural gas, nuclear power, oil, coal and other sources. Through the clean energy options program, Simsbury residents can instead choose wind, solar or small hydroelectric power through several energy products available in a partnership with local utility providers. The minimal associated costs and significant personal carbon reductions are benefits of this program in addition to the state's municipal reward program, which provides participating municipalities with photovoltaic solar installations on public buildings.
- With a change in the state's criteria for the Clean Energy Communities program, it requires a new municipal pledge. This is being coordinated between the town and the school district as all buildings within the community are required to be part of the commitment. With the approval of the new pledge, Simsbury will receive a 9 kW solar installation that has been earned based on points achieved against the state's criteria along with a further \$10,000 grant to continue to support sustainability initiatives. Additionally, a joint effort with Tom Roy to put together a Simsbury energy plan has been ongoing with the idea to present both the municipal pledge and the energy plan to the board of selectman in the next year.
- Green Business Challenge: The Green Business Challenge rating system, originally designed in 2010 and completed for future implementation, provides standards for environmentally sustainable Simsbury business operations and services. Connecticut revised its criteria for communities to add key elements of energy conservation in addition to the original Clean Energy Initiative that had been the key thrust. The task force has been revising its previously developed criteria to incorporate this element plus other sustainability elements.

CONSERVATION/INLAND WETLANDS

During the 2013-2014 fiscal year, the Simsbury Conservation Commission/Inland Wetlands Agency received 45 applications. Of these applications, the commission approved 44 and one was withdrawn.

The commission's contribution in the 2013-2014 fiscal year is perhaps best exemplified by its handling of the April 2014 inland wetlands application for a gas station and convenience store at 155 Hopmeadow Street. It was a controversial application, the subject of a very spirited and lengthy public hearing. Two aspects of the commission's work stand out. First, the commission, sitting as the inland wetlands and watercourses agency, delivered its ruling in a

detailed written decision that closely tracked the evidence presented and the applicable law and regulation. In the past such cases had usually been dealt with in oral decisions that might have left more room for misunderstanding and litigation. Second, the commission formally donned its conservation hat and expressed a conservation view disfavoring the project, which in its more legally constrained inland wetlands guise it had been obliged to approve. This reflects the commission's resolve to put increased emphasis on its conservation role and to more freely share its conservation judgment with other town officials and the public.

That resolve was also evident in June 2014 when the commission adopted a resolution urging the board of selectmen and board of finance to apply the proceeds of the Pharos Farm transaction to the open space fund in order that town-owned open space might be provided proper stewardship.

The conservation commission is composed of nine appointed members, including seven regular members and two alternates. Formed under the auspices of, and controlled primarily by, CGS Sec. 7-131a through CGS Sec. 7-131e, it is responsible for preserving the natural resources of the Town of Simsbury and for keeping a town-wide inventory of open spaces. The commission has worked closely with the town's Open Space Committee and has supported the efforts of both the Town of Simsbury and the Simsbury Land Trust to obtain and preserve parcels of open space with ecological value and connectivity.

The commission also acts as the inland wetlands and watercourses agency (IWWA) for the Town of Simsbury and, under CGS Sec. 22a-36 thru 22a-42, administers state and local regulations regarding the use and protection of designated wetlands and watercourses. Members are expected to complete a three-part training course offered by the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and encouraged to attend the Connecticut Bar Association's Land Use Legal Seminar held every two years.

In its role as inland wetlands and watercourses agency, the commission reviewed and revised its regulations, bringing them up-to-date with state law and model regulations. Conservation commissions have been described as "the conservation consciousness of the community." In that capacity, the commission took a leading role in focusing public attention on the threat to the Farmington River posed by a scheme to pipe its water to another watershed in service of development there. The commission also publicly raised yet unresolved questions about the regulation of flows in the river. The commission also continued to advocate for low impact development features, in order to protect water quality in the town's inland water resources, through permitting processes and in town planning and design standards, such as those that were proposed this past year for the reuse and redevelopment of The Hartford insurance property.

DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

The Simsbury Design Review Board serves as an advisory body to the planning and zoning commissions on site planning, building design and signage. The design review board is responsible for reviewing land use applications and making detailed recommendations consistent with its publication, Guidelines for Community Design.

The review board recommends to property owners, developers and other commissions ways and methods to preserve Simsbury's visual resources, improve community development, protect significant architectural heritage, conserve value in the built and natural environment, and assist when appropriate to formulate and implement sound planning and design policies.

There are seven regular and three alternate members appointed and qualified to serve by reason of training and/or experience in architecture, site planning, landscape architecture, historic preservation, professional engineering, graphic design or other discipline as determined appropriate by the board of selectmen. Members are appointed on a two-year basis.

In addition to its regular function in the town-wide land use process, the design review board will play a primary role in all Simsbury Center applications subject to the form-based code adopted by the zoning commission.

In summary, the design review board functions as part of Simsbury's informed decision-making to revitalize its centers, celebrate its heritage, maintain the natural environment, provide for recreation, build on established landscape patterns, and, most importantly preserve community identity.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The Simsbury Economic Development Commission (EDC) was created by municipal ordinance for the promotion and development of the economic resources of the Town of Simsbury. Its powers are defined by charter and as established by Connecticut General Statute Section 7-136. Its mission is to advise the town and act as its liaison in order to facilitate expansion of the tax base, consistent with the character of the town, through maintenance and growth of existing businesses and attraction of comparable new businesses. The EDC's current efforts have been in the areas of marketing the town consistent with the commission's business attraction plan: developing a town-wide infrastructure more supportive of business; and as appropriate, advocating approval of commercial development projects that will augment the town's commercial tax base, and help maintain the overall character and quality of life within Simsbury.

2013-2014 Accomplishments

- Supported the Simsbury Main Street Partnership, Farmington Valley Visitors Association, and Simsbury Tourism.

- Worked with and supported the town's marketing study by Fairweather Consulting.
- Recommended, initiated and supported the upgrade of the town and EDC websites.
- Supported the Hartford Land Use Study and proposed draft zoning code for those parcels.
- Supported the Innovation Initiative by Rich Wagner and the Simsbury Historical Society.
- Supported the Economic Development Task Force.
- Supported the Simsbury Bicycle Advisory Committee.
- Initiated and supported the Simsbury Meadows Master Plan study.
- Supported better coordination with Simsbury Culture Parks and Recreation Department.
- Supported the improvement and implementation of the town's GIS system.
- Supported the Weatogue Village District Study.
- Supported the dissemination of information from the Connecticut Small Business Development Agency.
- Supported the establishment of Simsbury's Economic Development Task Force.

BOARD OF ETHICS

The Simsbury Board of Ethics administers the town's Code of Ethics (Chapter 13). The code of ethics sets forth standards of ethical conduct guiding officials, employees, and consultants of the Town of Simsbury in the conduct of their public responsibilities and develops and maintains a tradition of responsible and effective public service.

FAIR RENT COMMISSION

Simsbury's Fair Rent Commission was established pursuant to Connecticut's General Statutes and chapter 15 of the Simsbury Town Code of Ordinances. The commission has the power to study and investigate, conduct hearings and receive written complaints relative to rental charges on housing accommodations, except those accommodations rented on a seasonal basis, within the Town of Simsbury. The fair rent commission seeks to control or eliminate excessive rental charges on such accommodations and to carry out the provisions of chapter 15 of the town code and applicable state law.

As the commission looks to the future with improving economic conditions, both locally and nationally, there is an increased sensitivity to the historical pattern of increased pressures on rents. The fair rent commission's goal is to retain and encourage the development of a reasonable diversity in rental housing in Simsbury.

Commission members include: Madeleine Gilkey, Cornelia Mason, John Paddock, Helen Peterson, David Richman, Judy Schaefer and Mary Turner.

SIMSBURY FIRE DISTRICT

June 2014 marked the 70th anniversary of the creation of the Simsbury Fire District. Seventy years ago, in 1944, the founders of the district had the foresight to create, with the endorsement of the



Above, The Simsbury Volunteer Fire Company spend countless hours in training and preparing for responses. Here, members practice making a rescue off the path up to Heublein Tower. Photo right, The Simsbury Volunteer Fire Company has to be ready for anything, so their trucks carry all sorts of gear.

Connecticut Legislature, an independent fire protection authority for Simsbury that has maintained a tradition of excellence to this day. With this authority, the district has been able to carry out its mission to the citizens of Simsbury in a professional, apolitical, and cost effective manner.

The district could not carry out this mission nearly as cost effectively for Simsbury's citizens without a group of dedicated citizen volunteers that devote untold hours to training and protecting Simsbury. Whether at an emergency call out or with their presence in community activities like the Torchlight Parade, the Simsbury Volunteer Fire Company (SVFC) gets high respect and praise from Simsbury's residents. The extraordinary contributions of time and effort by these selfless citizens save Simsbury's taxpayers significant expense each year. If the community ever had to resort to a paid department, even with minimal professional staffing, the fire district annual budget would likely increase 200-300 percent.

The fire district also has a small complement of paid employees whose commitment and work is much appreciated as well. The fire marshal's office, the building and fleet maintenance staff, and dispatch office staff have once again contributed greatly to maintaining the excellence of the department over the past year.

Simsbury's citizens can continue to rest assured that they have the benefit of a great group of volunteers and employees dedicated to maintaining Simsbury's status as one of the best-protected communities in the State of Connecticut.

Following are some significant highlights of the district's accomplishments this past year and some goals for next year.

- The Simsbury Fire District operated within budget. The



district adhered to its long-term goal of meeting both operating and capital requirements without resorting to borrowing. The mill rate was held flat at 1.22 mills. Capital dollars were set aside within the budget for fleet replacement pursuant to the 20-year plan, as well as the total replacement of all self-contained breathing apparatus.

- In the past year, the fire company responded to 668 call outs. Behind this number are the countless additional hours spent in training and preparing for responses by the entire SVFC family, regular members, officers that lead the department, as well as member of the Simsbury Volunteer Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary.
- During fiscal year 2013-2014, various members of the department achieved official independent designations for Firefighter I, Firefighter II, Hazardous Material Operational certification, and specialized training for explosive devices.
- The district solicited bids and awarded contracts for the replacement of engines 5 and 6 both of which will be 25 years old at the time of their replacement late in 2014.
- The district also took delivery of a new utility vehicle (S-10) used for maintenance.
- The heating system at the Bushy Hill station was upgraded which should lead to both increased comfort and energy efficiency.

- A new hydraulic lift, capable of lifting 91,000 pounds, was installed in the mechanic's building to replace an old and failing one. This lift ensures that the district mechanic can safely lift every piece of apparatus that constitutes the fleet.
- A new car fire-training prop was ordered for installation at the Weatogue training facility. Aside from enhanced vehicle fire training, there will be an environmental benefit associated from using a cleaner fuel source.
- **Long time, faithful employees Starr Scully and Kitty Vangunten, both dispatchers, retired.**
- Simsbury maintained its status as a member of the Capital Region Hazmat Team as well as the Capital Region Emergency Response Plan. Simsbury responded and trained with member towns that include West Hartford, Hartford, East Hartford and Ellington.
- **The fire district was granted a low power FM broadcasting license to enhance communications, particularly during emergencies, with town residents. Fire Marshal Kevin Kowalski deserves recognition for doggedly pursuing this initiative.**
- The district has continued to add more public information on the district to its section of the fire department website (www.simsburyfd.org). The reports and budgets of the district are there for convenient access and as a matter of public record. District officers hope that this helps the public understand the role of the district particularly as it relates to expenditures and taxation.
- Finally, the district remains committed to providing the fire department membership the resources, which they need to continue to enhance their ability to meet the fire emergency response needs of the citizens of Simsbury. District leadership will remain proactive about evaluating the risks and the future so that they remain on the leading edge of its important mission of protecting the community.

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

The East Weatogue Historic District Commission is responsible for perpetuating, preserving and retaining the historic features of Simsbury and promoting the educational, cultural, economic, and general welfare of the public through the preservation and protection of the distinctive characteristics of buildings and places located within the district.

2012-2013 Accomplishments

In fiscal year 2013-2014, the commission heard 11 applications for Certificates of Appropriateness and approved nine of them. The approved applications consisted of:

- A fence along the property line
- A 10' x 14' shed
- A standby generator
- Replacement windows
- A freestanding pergola behind the house
- An animal shelter



- An existing cedar split rail fence
- The Simsbury Historic District Commission continues its efforts to be a resource to the residents of the Town of Simsbury to assist in answering any questions regarding historic building renovations.

HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Simsbury Housing Authority, located on 13 acres at 1600 Hopmeadow Street, is a non-profit organization responsible for operating the Dr. Owen L. Murphy Apartments and the Virginia Connolly Residence.

The authority is dedicated to providing affordable, safe, decent, sanitary and drug-free housing for residents. The facilities provide subsidized housing for the elderly and persons over 18 with disabilities meeting certain income limitations. The housing authority consists of five commissioners appointed by the board of selectmen (as required by the State of Connecticut General Statutes) who oversee operations and provide strategic direction to the housing authority's staff. The authority employs five full-time, permanent staff and five part-time workers.

The authority receives no funding from the Town of Simsbury; however there is a mutually cooperative working relationship between the town and the housing authority. Revenues are derived from rents, subsidy from the State of Connecticut Department of Housing, grants and donations from individuals, commercial, private and civic organizations.

Dr. Owen L. Murphy Apartments

The Dr. Owen L. Murphy Apartments provides housing for elderly persons, aged 62 and over, and persons with disabilities over the age of 18 receiving Social Security Disability Income. There are 70 garden-style wood frame constructed units (49 efficiency and 21 one-bedroom) designed for independent living. The first phase consisting of 40 units was constructed in 1970 and the second phase consisting of 30 units was constructed in 1974. There is also a community building for social functions and two gazebos on the property where residents gather to socialize. Many of the residents participate in activities and

The Simsbury Housing Authority, located on 13 acres at 1600 Hopmeadow Street, is a non-profit organization responsible for operating the Dr. Owen L. Murphy Apartments and the Virginia Connolly Residence.

programs conducted at the Virginia Connolly Residence as well as the Town of Simsbury Senior Center.

Virginia Connolly Residence

The Virginia Connolly Residence provides congregate housing for persons aged 62 and over. Constructed in 1990, it is a two-story brick building consisting of 40 efficiency units designed for independent living with services. Services include one main meal each day, which is prepared on-site and wait staff served in a central dining room, laundry facilities, emergency call system, weekly housekeeping service and 24-hour security. The housing authority also offers a variety of social/recreational programs designed to enhance the lives of residents.

An assisted living program is available for residents who require assistance beyond the basic congregate program. The services are provided through the state Department of Social Services Home Care Program for the Elderly and are designed to help elderly residents age in place

2013-2014 Accomplishments

- The housing authority participated with the outreach efforts of the Town of Simsbury to coordinate activities between the Simsbury school system and authority residents. Residents attended several theater performances and sports events, free of charge, at the high school and middle school.
- The Simsbury Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors voted to extend an honorary membership to the Simsbury Housing Authority. The authority sponsored a Simsbury Chamber of Commerce "After Hours" event in March.
- The common light fixtures in both properties as well as all of the roadway and parking lot lights were replaced with energy efficient bulbs and fixtures. The work was completed through CL&P's Small Business Energy Advantage Program.
- A grant was received from the Connecticut Housing

Finance Authority (CHFA) for the purchase of eco-friendly benches and a bicycle rack for the Dr. Owen L. Murphy Apartments.

- In an effort to provide marketing material to the community the housing authority had a booth at Septemberfest, the Simsbury-Granby Rotary Club River Run, and at a senior showcase fair held at Eno Memorial Hall.
- As part of the housing authority's ongoing community outreach, students from the Master's School in West Simsbury, Henry James Middle School and Westminster assisted staff with spring and fall cleanup as well as visiting with residents at the Virginia Connolly Residence.
- The authority held a Veterans Recognition Day for residents who were veterans of World War II and Vietnam. Representatives from the VFW and Town of Simsbury attended.

2014-2015 Goals

- Continue to develop a long-term strategy for maintaining and expanding both properties in order to be competitive in the housing market.
- Continue to be active with the trade organization Connecticut National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (CONN NAHRO) to keep abreast of current and future business trends.
- Continue to upgrade the overall marketing strategy including advertising, brochures, news articles, local public television, website, and Facebook page.
- Actively participate in supporting current legislative matters related to public housing, assisted living concerns and most importantly, funding for rental assistance, congregate subsidy and resident services.

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

The Simsbury Human Relations Commission is an advisory group whose goal is to eliminate discrimination based upon race, color, religion, age, sex, disability, sexual orientation, or national ancestry. The commission seeks to foster mutual respect and understanding, offer community-wide education and awareness and encourage equality of treatment. It seeks compliance with federal, state, and other governmental laws and regulations, and assists public and private agencies in the implementation of those goals.

Members include: Susan Ersinghaus, Sharon I. Lawson and staff liaison Mickey Lecours-Beck.

JUVENILE REVIEW BOARD

The Simsbury Juvenile Review Board was established in 1982 by the Simsbury Police Department to provide an alternative and early means of identifying and assisting Simsbury youths, age 15 and under, who come in contact with the police for being involved with minor violations of criminal statutes.

The function of the board is to divert Simsbury youth from the juvenile justice system. A referral to the juvenile

review board provides an opportunity for professionals, who work with children, to ensure that the child understands that he/she will be held accountable by the community for minor violations of the law.

Historically, the board has had a high rate of success. The vast majority of children who are referred to the juvenile review board are not again involved with the police.

In fiscal year 2013-2014, the board met with one Simsbury youth and their family. A total of 10 community service hours were assigned and performed.

Board members include: Mickey Lecours-Beck, Simsbury Police Chief Peter Ingvertsen, Scott Sagan, Meredith Brockbank, Steve Patrina, Rabbi Howard Herman, Marilyn Rotondo, John Thibeault and Gerard Toner.

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

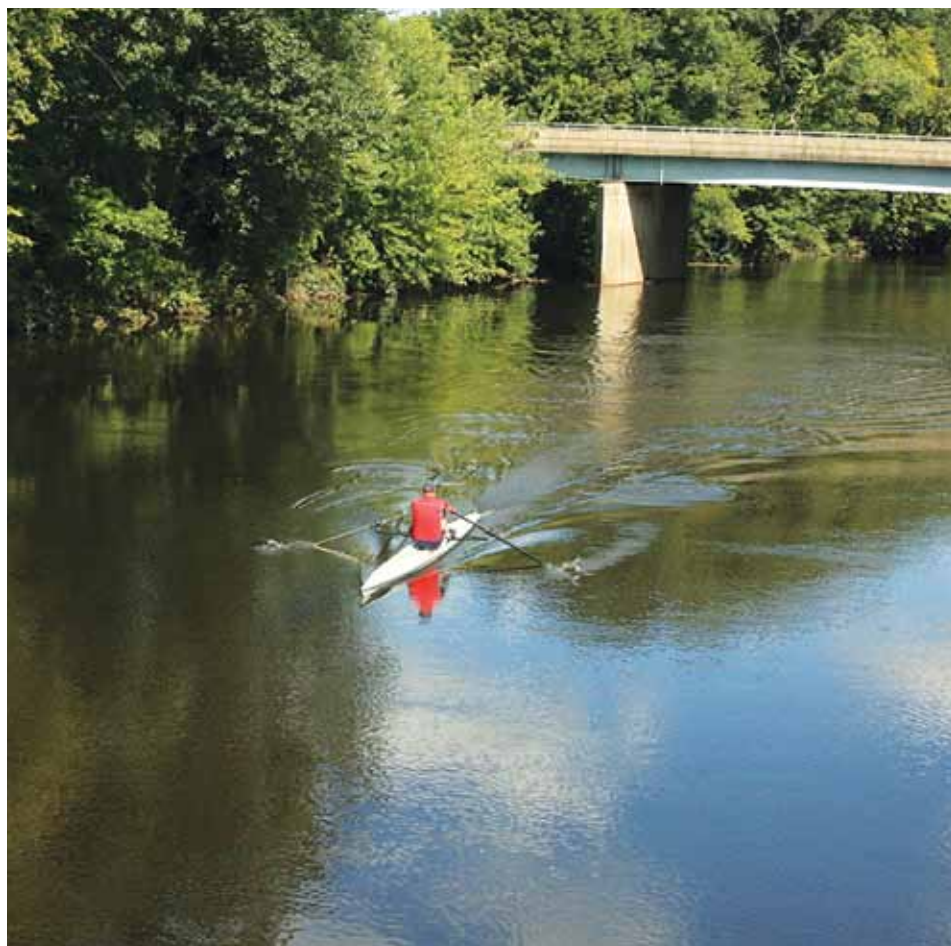
Connecticut State Statutes and the Simsbury Town Charter established the nine-member, popularly elected, Simsbury Library Board of Trustees. The management of the Simsbury Public Library is vested in the library board of trustees. Trustees serve six-year terms.

The board of trustees appoints a qualified library director, in accordance with town personnel procedures, to serve as the executive and administrative officer of the library on behalf of the board and under its review and direction. The library board of trustees is responsible for establishing a

philosophy of library service, setting policies to implement this philosophy, accepting gifts and donations on behalf of the library and expending all money appropriated for the Simsbury Public Library.

2013-2014 Accomplishments

- Reaffirmed its policy that programs at the library are free and open to all.
- Studied e-book pricing for libraries and advocated with state legislators for equal treatment in pricing and availability between libraries and consumers.
- Researched and studied the "Do-It-Yourself" and "Maker Movement" in libraries and recommended implementation of one in the Simsbury Public Library. It is called the Innovators' Workshop.
- Approved and supported the Innovators' Workshop Fair. Collaborated with the Simsbury Historical Society and other town organizations in support of Simsbury's innovation initiative.
- Expanded the Innovators' Workshop to include a 3-D printer. Approved the Innovators' Workshop Policy and the Innovators' Workshop Liability Waiver and Hold Harmless Agreement.
- Accepted gifts from Eunice Kelly's family, the Simsbury Bank and the Rotary Club to support the Innovators' Workshop.
- Accepted the gifts of a mural in the children's room and a wall clock for the main program room.



- Approved the revised library program room use policy and fee schedule.
- Replaced the central air conditioner unit.
- Approved the Food for Fines program to support the annual Jack Bannon Turkey Trot.
- Attended the statewide leadership conference for library board of trustees.
- Secured budget approval to reestablish the teen librarian/reference librarian position.
- Authorized and supervised the addition of exterior lighting along Eaglewood Road.
- Approved funding to upgrade the computers in the technology center to Windows 7 from Windows XP. Approved funding to procure new computers in the business resource center to resolve Windows XP issue.
- Launched the "Little Free Libraries" initiative with the first one installed at town hall.

2014-2015 Goals

- To continue expansion of the Innovators' Workshop.
- To develop a long-term technology plan for the library.
- To complete Windows XP upgrade.
- To further develop teen services.

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Simsbury's Open Space Committee is chaired by the first selectman, and was established by Town Charter Section 716 to assist and advise the board of selectmen in identifying land suitable for acquisition or preservation. The committee is composed of the first selectman; the chairmen of the planning, zoning, and conservation commissions; and a member as may be appointed by the board of selectmen. The committee acts on requests made to it by the board of selectmen.

During the 2013-2014 fiscal year, the town completed the acquisition of 49 acres of open space known as Parcel B; an important parcel in the Ethel Walker School's open space program. The final 41-acre parcel, scheduled for purchase in fiscal year 2014-2015, will complete the 426-acre Ethel Walker Open Space Program. **The Ethel Walker property is a cornerstone of over 1,400 contiguous acres of open space, recreation and agricultural land, with connectivity to an additional 5,200 acres of open space. These combined properties are among the largest open space areas in Connecticut.**

The town also sold a 39-acre open space parcel called Pharos Farm in an agreement with the Simsbury Land Trust to preserve the land for agricultural use through a conservation easement. This sale also allowed the Simsbury Land Trust to leverage the sale of Pharos Farms to acquire additional development rights on an 11-acre portion of land known as Hall Farm on Old Farms Road.

The town is responsible for 3,402 acres of open space and park/recreation land. In addition, the town has certain enforcement responsibilities for 97 acres of acquired conservation easement and development rights land.

Total open space, park/recreation and conservation/development rights properties, owned by the town, state

and private entities (Simsbury Land Trust, McLean Game Refuge, Metropolitan District Commission and owner's associations) total 7,107 acres, which is 32.37 percent of the town's total land area.

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Simsbury Planning Commission is an elected body composed of six regular members and three alternates. In accordance with the Connecticut General Statutes, the commission prepares, adopts, and amends the town's Plan of Conservation and Development at least every 10 years. It also makes findings and sends recommendations to the zoning commission and the board of selectmen, under CGS 8-24, regarding municipal improvements, including the construction of facilities, acquisition and disposition of real property, in addition to acting upon applications for the subdivision of land.

The commission, which meets regularly on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, makes recommendations to the zoning commission on proposed zone changes and text amendments to the Simsbury Zoning Regulations, as required by the Connecticut General Statutes under CGS 8-3.

During this fiscal year, the commission approved seven referrals to the board of selectmen under CGS 8-24, including The Hartford Land Use Form-Based Code, the scoreboard at 100 Old Farms Road, and Capital Improvement Projects. The commission also approved three applications during this fiscal year, consisting of a subdivision, a re-subdivision, and a re-approval for a previously approved re-subdivision. The planning commission continues to play a key role in commenting on development applications.

POLICE COMMISSION

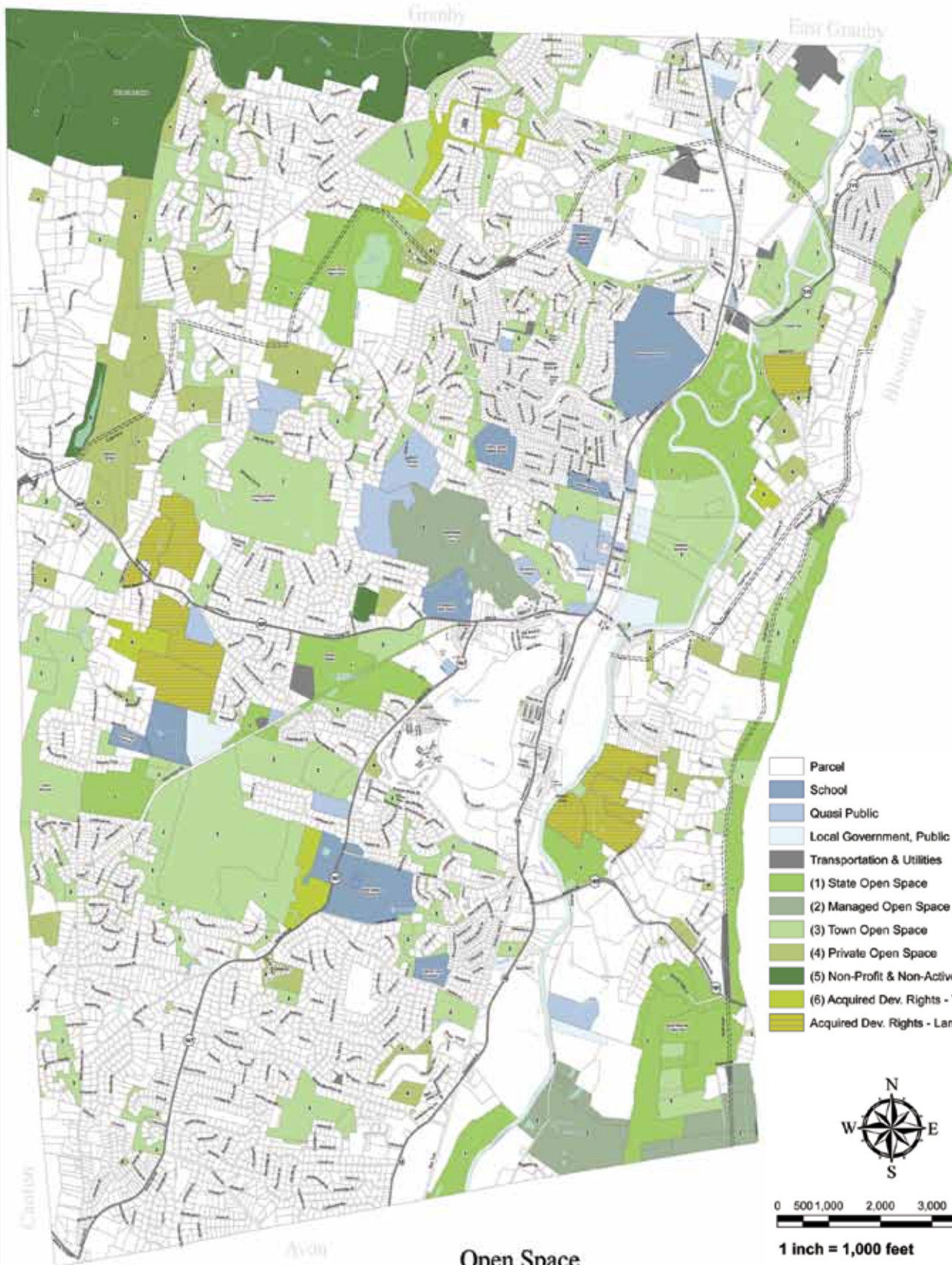
By Connecticut State Statute and Simsbury Town Charter provisions, the Simsbury Police Commission has the requirement of general management and supervision of the Simsbury Police Department (through the auspices of the Chief of Police). In pursuit of that requirement, the commission reviews citizen matters involving the police department and submission of the annual budget to the board of selectmen. It further participates in the collective bargaining process; and is the final authority for all personnel and disciplinary matters within the police department.

Growth since the 2007 town Plan of Conservation and Development

Year	Open Space (acres)	Conservation/Development Rights (acres)
2007	2,658	62
2007-2013 (bought)	19	10
2007-2013 (dedicated)	16	30
2013 /2014	(39)	5
2014 /2015	(planned)	41
TOTAL	2,867	97



Members of the Simsbury Beautification Committee look after the flowers at the Tariffville gazebo.



- Parcel
- School
- Quasi Public
- Local Government, Public Facilities
- Transportation & Utilities
- (1) State Open Space
- (2) Managed Open Space
- (3) Town Open Space
- (4) Private Open Space
- (5) Non-Profit & Non-Active Open Space
- (6) Acquired Dev. Rights - Town
- Acquired Dev. Rights - Land Trust



0 500 1,000 2,000 3,000 4,000 Feet

1 inch = 1,000 feet

Open Space 2014 Town of Simsbury, CT

This map is for informational purposes only.
For details regarding any specific parcel or zone,
consult the Simsbury Land Records and Department of
Community Planning and Development official records.

Prepared by the
Town of Simsbury
Department of Community Planning and Development

Map Printed May 2015

PUBLIC BUILDING COMMITTEE

Simsbury's Public Building Committee, which is made up of nine appointed members, generally meets at least once a month throughout the year to oversee the design and construction of all major school projects. The board of selectmen also assigned major addition and/or renovation projects of town-owned buildings to the public building committee for oversight. The town engineer and the public school's business manager provide staff support.

2013-2014 Accomplishments

- The committee and the senior center/Eno Memorial subcommittee continued to consider an appropriate site for the senior center. Several subcommittee meetings were held in early 2014 to receive comments from an expanded subcommittee on potential sites for the facility. The senior center/Eno Memorial subcommittee submitted a report to the board of selectmen in May of 2014 that summarized their findings and recommendations for moving forward with the project. The selectmen rejected the option of further considering the Bushy Hill Road/Stratton Brook Road site in late May of 2014 after a public hearing was held on the project. The selectmen requested that the public building committee recommend the most appropriate site in the center area for the facility, along with further evaluating the feasibility of renovating Eno Memorial Hall.
- Completed construction closeout for Simsbury Farms renovation and addition project that included the main building renovation and addition which includes full accessibility and energy efficient heating and lighting. Construction of the \$2.87-million project was completed in phases so some of the facilities would be available for use prior to the completion of the project.
- The board of selectman assigned the public building committee with carrying out the design and construction oversight for the Henry James Memorial School renovation — Phase 1A main office security project in May 28 of 2014.
- The selectman assigned the public building committee with carrying out the design and construction oversight for the Squadron Line Elementary School main office security project in May of 2014.

2014-2105 Goals

- The public building committee will explore sites available for the senior center in the center area and complete additional investigations of the accessibility issues at Eno Memorial Hall and the potential for a "distributed services" model for the senior center.
- The committee will complete the selection of and architect for the Henry James renovation — main office security project with the intent of completing plans for the project in early 2015. Construction of the project is planned for the summer of 2015.
- The committee will complete the selection of and

architect for Squadron Line's main office project with the intent of completing plans for the project in early 2015. Construction of the project is planned for the summer of 2015.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

The mission of the Simsbury Recycling Committee is to educate and disseminate information to the public regarding the Town of Simsbury's recycling goals and to facilitate the reuse and recycling of material resources and the reduction of waste within our community. Recently the recycling standard set by the State of Connecticut was lifted to 58 percent of potentially recyclable materials, a higher level requiring greater town, community and contractor effort. The recycling committee, through practical demonstration and a variety of educational inducements, continues its goal to meet and exceed the higher standard set for Simsbury.

2013-2014 Accomplishments

- The recycling committee manages the Swap Shoppe for approximately 30 Saturdays each season (as

determined by weather conditions). Since public awareness of the new Swap Shoppe reached a higher level in 2011, the committee has experienced an average seasonal adoption rate of 946 items, total average number of visitors of 814 (27 visitors per Saturday) and well over 150 hours of volunteer time expended each season in achieving these results. The recycling committee continues oversight of the operation of the Swap Shoppe with on-site management provided by members of the recycling committee and by community volunteers.

- Deputy Commissioner for Environmental Quality at the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Macky McCleary, gave an informative presentation titled "Let's Talk Trash" which was held on June 30 at Eno Memorial Hall. The presentation was filmed by SCTV for future broadcast.
- The committee's magazine swap kiosk, created in 2010 in the coffee bar/hospitality area at the library, continues to see strong interest in periodicals donated by patrons and the library for free adoption by other library visitors. The committee continues to manage the magazine swap kiosk and perform weekly organization and vetting of its offerings.
- With its recycling award, presented at a board of selectmen meeting, the committee annually recognizes an individual or entity for an outstanding recycling achievement that has taken place within the community. In November, 2013 Simsbury's Town Engineer Rich Sawitzke received this award for his many contributions to recycling efforts in Simsbury.



Above, The recycling committee maintains the magazine swap kiosk at the Simsbury Public Library. Below, The Swap Shoppe at the bulky waste and recycling center is managed by the recycling committee with help from volunteers.



Top photo, The tourism committee created a cell phone tour of spots in town for visitors. Inset photo, The town was named to the list of the state's Top Ten Fan-Favorite town. Bottom, In December 2013, the committee honored long-time tourism co-chair (seen here on the right) Liz Banco on her retirement from the committee.

2014-2015 Goals

- Planning for a major project was begun by the committee in early 2014 to enlist the support of residents in surpassing the goal of recycling 58 percent of eligible disposable materials, as required by the State of Connecticut's new Solid Waste Management Plan. To accomplish this goal in Simsbury, town-wide mailings will highlight the financial benefits of increased recycling, introduce new state requirements, explain changes required locally and encourage full community participation.
- Additional plans include updating and improving the recycling committee website and its Swap Shoppe page, expanding media coverage of recycling programs,

collaborating with town schools to encourage and recognize school recycling efforts, using street banners to promote recycling, stationing public recycling bins and holding a recycling fair and composting seminar.

TOURISM COMMITTEE

The Simsbury Tourism Committee has continued to follow its mission "to help efforts to enhance the vitality and broaden the economic base of Simsbury through the development and promotion of tourism." In recent years, the committee has been using new technology and techniques to reach both residents and non-residents.

The inaugural year of the committee's Facebook page coincided with a contest sponsored by the State of Connecticut's Department of Tourism. Simsbury's "Connecticut, Still Revolutionary" campaign to determine the Top 10 Fan-Favorite Towns in the state was carried out on Facebook, and on the state's Visit Connecticut website. In the contest's first year, Simsbury had no presence in the program.

In the second year, the committee decided to spearhead Simsbury's participation in the contest. Assisted by the town with a video and posters, the committee reached out to residents and non-residents through postings on its Facebook page and the pages of local groups, as well as email blasts to other town groups to encourage everyone to vote for Simsbury, and its local attractions. In the end Simsbury was voted the #7 Fan Favorite town in the state, with the Old Drake Hill Flower Bridge the favorite attraction. In the course of the campaign, Simsbury received publicity on television and newspapers, as well as the Internet: publicity and mentions that the committee could never have been able to buy. Simsbury was recognized as a "tourist attraction" right alongside the more traditionally accepted shore towns and hosts of well-known sites.

2013-2014 Accomplishments

- Maintained a Facebook page on which local activities are promoted almost daily. These postings included items on the Flower Bridge, events at the Performing Arts Center at Simsbury Meadows, the First Annual Triathlon, performances of the Theatre Guild and Simsbury Light Opera Company, the Simsbury Free Library, Simsbury Public Library, the Beautification Committee, Simsbury Historical Society, Simsbury Grange, local farms, Simsbury Fly-in and Car Show, Simsbury Celebrates, Simsbury Land Trust, Septemberfest, Community Farm, Martin Luther King Jr. events, veterans events, Tariffville's Whitewater Triple Crown, and many others.
- Continued to work on the travel and tourism section of the town website which was renamed Visit Simsbury to coordinate with the state website Visit Connecticut. Placed a link to the tourism Facebook on the town website.
- Worked with Simsbury Main Street Partnership on Simsbury's Valentine's Day Marriage License contest.
- Created a new Farm Brochure highlighting Simsbury agriculture.
- Continued to work with real estate professionals who work in Simsbury to promote the tourism Facebook page as a way to introduce potential residents to the town.
- Members continued to respond to calls requesting information on the visitor's line, 860-658-4000.
- Distributed brochures at sites around the town as well as at various events.
- Produced SCTV shows The Simsbury View and the Talk of Simsbury to promote town sites, activities and events.
- The committee itself learned more about various places of interest in town by holding its monthly meetings at different places and hearing from the hosts how tourism contributes to their business and how they in turn contribute to the economic development of the town.
- Expanded the number of members of this group of dedicated volunteers who are proud of their town and want to share that pride with both other residents and visitors.
- Honored Liz Banco, the long-time co-chair of the tourism

committee on her retirement, and celebrated new co-chair Dominique Avery's honor as Hometown Hero for her work for the town including the founding of the Old Drake Hill Flower Bridge.

2014-2015 Goals

- Maintain and improve the Simsbury Tourism Facebook page to promote the town and all it has to offer to residents and visitors.
- Continue to work with other town groups, such as the Simsbury Historical Society, Simsbury Main Street Partnership, etc. in focusing on the planning of town-wide events to attract more tourists to Simsbury.
- Assist in the creation of a video that will aid in the marketing of the town.
- Support the creation of a standalone Simsbury travel

and tourism website.

- Support the creation of new town-wide events needed to grow and expand tourism, recreation and culture.
- Expand the cell phone tour to include more sites.
- Help build civic pride by reminding residents of the treasures in the town of Simsbury so that they will function as ambassadors

SIMSBURY VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION

The Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Association (SVAA) has served the emergency medical needs of the community for 57 years. **In the past year SVAA's volunteer EMTs, augmented by our paid staff of paramedics, responded to approximately 1,700 emergency medical calls.**



In June of this year, SVAA held a family open house. This event was an opportunity for the community to meet SVAA members in a non-emergency setting. The event showcased the association's history, and had a number of educational displays and activities for children. Meeting the community in this setting was gratifying to members, while providing the community with important information relating to emergency situations.

Retiring after an exemplary career with SVAA, Mark McPherson was named Member Emeritus. McPherson was a member of SVAA for 20 years, serving many years on the board of directors, was a past president and facilities officer. During his award-winning tenure, McPherson was an exemplary volunteer and role model to members new and old. Not surprisingly, he had previously received the honor of being named a Town of Simsbury Hometown Hero.

Simsbury has been designated as a HEARTsafe community by the state Department of Public Health. During the past year the association trained an additional 150 citizens in CPR. The goal of this program is to improve the chances of survival for anyone suffering a sudden cardiac arrest by maximizing the number of non-medical people trained in CPR and documenting the locations of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in public places.

During the upcoming year, SVAA has the goal of staffing a second advanced life support ambulance during the high volume weekday hours. This will be a major undertaking on the part of the association, but represents the association's commitment to providing a high level of care in the face of increasing demand.

Beyond providing emergency medical responses to 911 calls, the association has several other public functions. Throughout the year, SVAA conducts CPR and first aid classes as well as an annual EMT course. The ambulance association is also often on stand-by at major public functions like the St. Mary's Carnival, and Simsbury Celebrates.

As Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Association serves the town's emergency medical needs, it continues to rely on, and appreciate, the ongoing financial support of local citizens, businesses, and organizations. Please visit the web site: www.simsburyems.com to learn more about the organization and its history.

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

The Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) is a body of seven members, appointed by the board of selectmen, responsible for establishing, reviewing and enforcing the policies, procedures and fees in connection with the operation and maintenance of Simsbury's sanitary sewer system and wastewater treatment facility. The treatment facility also receives wastewater from Avon, Granby and



In June of 2014, the Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Association held a family open house.



An aerial view of the Water Pollution Control Facility on Drake Hill Road.

Canton. Each of these towns is a financial partner in the Water Pollution Control Facility. Inter-municipal agreements have been established to administer these relationships.

Regular WPCA meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Water Pollution Control Facility on Drake Hill Road, unless otherwise posted.

2013-2014 Accomplishments

- The WPCA conducted seven regular and two special meetings, including three public hearings, during which they: approved the force main extension from the town's public works garage to the Long View Drive pump station; and set the residential and non-residential user fee rate.
- In August 2013, Water Pollution Control Superintendent Jim Clifton retired after 13 years of service to the Town of Simsbury. Clifton was honored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency with a "2013 Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Excellence Award." He was selected for this recognition because of the outstanding job he performed over many years in operating and maintaining the Simsbury facility.
- Anthony Piazza was hired in January 2014 as the new superintendent.
- The closing for financing the facility upgrade was accomplished in the spring of 2008. The completion of the first phase of the upgrade in 2006 resulted in the facility being in compliance with the nitrogen discharge limits set by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) for the year 2015. Accomplishing this goal enabled Simsbury

WPCA participation in the state nitrogen credit-trading program and reduced the environmental impact on the Farmington River and ultimately Long Island Sound. Since 2007, the Simsbury WPCA has been a net recipient of funds from the state DEEP in the form of nitrogen credits.

2014-2015 Goals

- Complete the construction phase of the Tunxis Pump Station replacement.
- Complete rehabilitation of the Wolcott Pump Station.
- Hold public hearings regarding extending sanitary sewers on Flintlock Ridge and Musket Trail.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Simsbury Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) is an elected body of nine members, which includes six regular members and three alternates. The powers and duties of the board are established under Connecticut statute, chapter 124. The zoning board of appeals hears and decides:

- **Variances:** requests for variances from the Simsbury Zoning Regulations may be granted after due consideration of whether the request is consistent with public health, welfare, convenience, safety and property values; and whether owing to unusual conditions present on the specific lot or parcel, but not affecting generally the district in which it is situated, that a literal enforcement of the regulation or ordinance at issue would result in an "exceptional difficulty or unusual hardship" so that, if granted, substantial justice would be done and public safety and welfare thereby secured.

- **Appeals:** the ZBA hears and decides on appeals of zoning enforcement decisions, as well as certain decisions by the building official.
- **Special exceptions:** the ZBA also decides on special exceptions under state statute chapter 124, section 8-2g as specified in article 12 of the Simsbury Zoning Regulations.

During fiscal year 2013-2014, the zoning board of appeals received 15 variance applications, all of which were approved.

The board always welcomes any member of the public contemplating a variance to attend a meeting. The board generally meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the main meeting room of the Simsbury Town Hall.

ZONING COMMISSION

The Simsbury Zoning Commission, established under the Simsbury Town Charter, is an elected body of six regular members and three alternates. Among the powers and duties of the commission, and with the powers and authority granted by CGS Chapter 124, the commission has the additional responsibility of acting as the Simsbury Aquifer Protection Agency. The zoning commission regulates land and buildings within the town based on the adopted Town of Simsbury Zoning Regulations. It also adopts, amends, and repeals regulations; hears and decides upon applications to change regulations; and decides on site plan and special permit applications. The zoning regulations also provide for the manner in which the regulations are to be enforced. The zoning commission makes recommendations on other matters that may come before it, including requests from the board of selectmen.

In accordance with Chapter 4 of the Simsbury Town Code, the zoning commission is the designated Statutory Aquifer Protection Agency. In this regard, the commission and commission staff perform the required overview, inventory, and regulation of land uses located on the mapped aquifer areas. These aquifer areas are given due consideration during the review of any application which proposes to use or change a land use in a mapped aquifer area to ensure the activity proposed meets the requirements of the Aquifer Protection Regulations.

During the 2013-2014 fiscal year, the commission received 55 applications, including: 17 site plans and amendments, 16 special permits, 14 sign permits, four zone changes, and three regulation changes. Of these 55 applications, two were withdrawn, three failed to pass, and the rest were approved. The commission also reviewed the completed The Hartford Form-Based Code and approved it during the 2013-2014 fiscal year.

The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Town of Simsbury for June 30, 2014 is on file with the town clerk's office and available for view.

The data below is presented in a manner to set forth the financial portion of the town and

results of operations of the various funds of the town. The board of finance established a tax rate of 37.29 mills for fiscal year 2014, which was levied on the October 1, 2012 town Grand List.

The budget for fiscal year 2014 was

\$89,473,762. Total expenditures for fiscal year 2014 were \$89,413,752. Revenues over expenditures increased \$449, resulting in a change in the unassigned fund balance to \$11,611,521 for the period ending June 30, 2014.

General Fund Expenditures and Debt

Debt

As of June 30, 2014, the Town had bonds outstanding which mature serially to the year 2023, as follows:

Schools	\$11,800,279
Public Improvement	\$12,009,721
Total	\$23,810,000

Schedule of Debt Principle and Interest Maturities by Year – June 30, 2013

Year Ending June 30	Principal	Interest	Total Principal & Interest
2015	\$5,545,000	\$621,819	\$6,166,819
2016	\$5,035,000	\$440,463	\$5,475,463
2017	\$4,525,000	\$307,263	\$4,832,263
2018	\$3,500,000	\$189,463	\$3,689,463
2019-2023	\$5,205,000	\$250,325	\$5,455,325
	\$23,810,000	\$1,809,333	\$25,619,333

Per statutory debt limitations, total indebtedness shall not exceed seven times annual receipts from taxation.

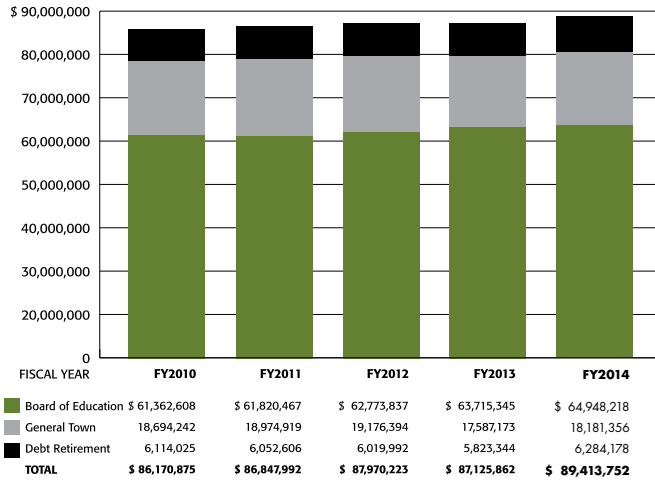
Total Capacity for borrowing shall not exceed \$524,856,353

Net Grand Lists and Tax Rates – 2004-2014

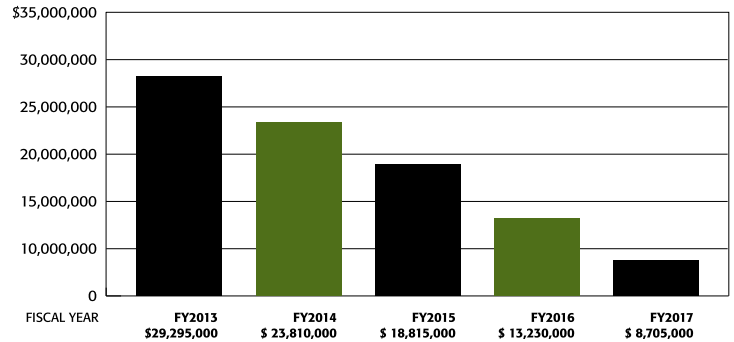
Per statutory debt limitations, total indebtedness shall not exceed seven times annual receipts from taxation, which is \$585,105,962.

Year End June 30	Grand List	Mill Rate	General Town	Board of Education	Debt Retirement	Totals
2004	\$1,911,380,612	32.60	\$14,818,826	\$48,290,928	\$5,025,232	\$68,134,986
2005	\$1,911,949,429	34.00	\$14,740,952	\$50,176,680	\$5,158,210	\$70,075,842
2006	\$1,935,322,272	35.20	\$16,872,390	\$52,429,310	\$5,522,357	\$74,824,057
2007	\$1,985,359,901	35.90	\$20,365,589	\$55,724,738	\$5,370,670	\$81,460,997
2008	\$2,010,867,186	36.90	\$20,141,322	\$58,562,224	\$5,860,785	\$84,564,331
2009	\$2,584,781,826	29.60	\$18,266,814	\$60,608,232	\$6,258,285	\$85,133,331
2010	\$2,581,459,147	30.10	\$18,694,242	\$61,362,608	\$6,114,025	\$86,170,875
2011	\$2,579,290,063	30.55	\$18,974,919	\$61,820,467	\$6,052,606	\$86,847,992
2012	\$2,599,506,658	30.86	\$19,176,394	\$62,773,837	\$6,019,992	\$87,970,223
2013	\$2,615,263,899	31.37	\$17,587,173	\$63,715,345	\$5,823,344	\$87,125,862
2014	\$2,239,093,122	37.29	\$18,181,356	\$64,948,218	\$6,284,178	\$89,413,752

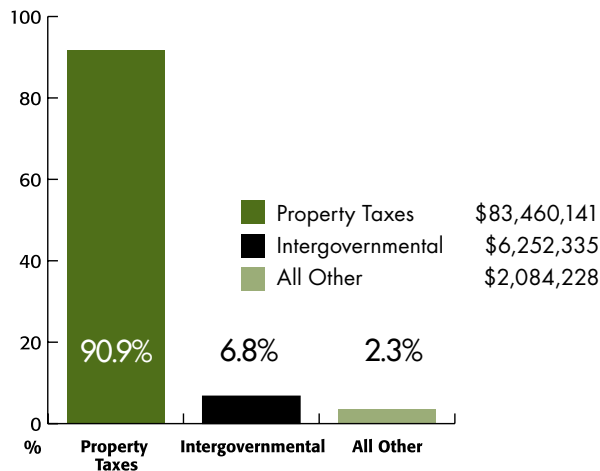
Total Expenditures – 2010-2014



Total Principal Outstanding – 2013-2017

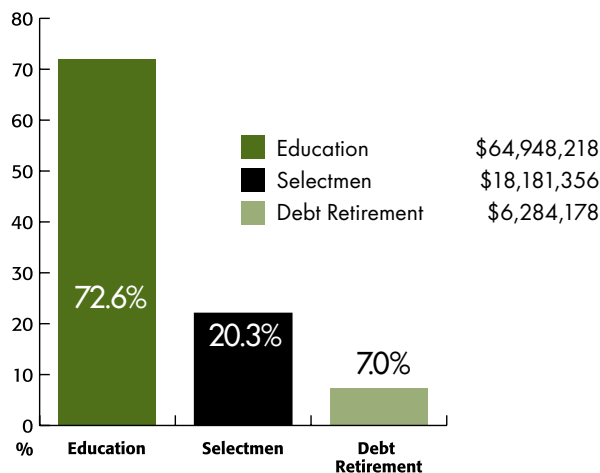


Revenues and Expenditures for Fiscal Year 2014



Revenues

Property Taxes	\$83,460,141
Intergovernmental	\$6,252,335
Investments	\$17,712
Charges For Services	\$595,766
Licenses/Permits	\$708,824
Other	\$761,926
Total	\$91,796,704



Expenditures

Education	\$64,948,218
Debt Retirement	\$6,284,178
General Government	\$1,108,137
Planning & Development	\$467,131
Public Safety	\$4,250,490
Facility Management	\$3,885,295
Culture & Recreation	\$2,206,887
Health & Welfare	\$557,750
Insurance & Benefits	\$4,833,767
Other	\$871,899
Total	\$89,413,752

Board & Commission Members

Elected Boards and Commissions, Additional Boards and Commissions (as of March 25, 2014)

Board of Assessment Appeals

Sharon I. Lawson
Stephen J. Nocera
Scott G. Siranni

Board of Education

Todd S. Burrick
Thomas A. Doran
Robert Michael Goman
Chris M. Kelly
Susan B. Salina
Lydia A. Tedone, *Chair*
Michael T. Wade
Tara Donohue Willerup

Board of Finance

Peter K. Askham, *Chair*
Jeff Blumenthal
Nicholas B. Mason, *Vice Chairman*
Barbara A. Petitjean
Linda J. Schofield
Moira K. Wertheimer

Board of Selectmen

Sean P. Askham
Cheryl B. Cook
Mary A. Glassman, *First Selectman*
Nancy M. Haase,
Deputy First Selectman
Lisa L. Heavner
Mike R. Paine

Library Board of Trustees

David J. Blume
Anne D. Erickson
Diana Fiske
Charmaine E. Glew
Diane S. Madigan
Christopher Morkan
Marianne B. O'Neil, *Chair*
Polly Gardow Rice
Gail Keebler Ryan

Planning Commission

Richard Cortes
Ronald J. Locandro Jr.
Gary J. Lungarini
Mark S. Drake
Ferguson R. Jansen Jr., *Chair*
Robert J. Kulakowski
Alan C. Needham
Kevin M. Prell
William F. Rice

Zoning Board of Appeals

Jacqueline S. Battos
Paul J. Cocchi Jr.
Dennis J. Fallon
Carol Bingham
Tegan Blackburn, *Chair*
Thomas F. Horan
Craig K. MacCormac
Katie S. Martin
Gregory W. Piecuch

Zoning Commission

Edward M. Cosgrove
Michael T. Doyle
Vaughan A. Marecki
William J. Fiske, *Secretary*
Kevin E. Gray
Derek B. Peterson
Robert D. Pomeroy Jr., *Chair*
Gerald A. Post
David Rogers Ryan

Aging & Disability Commission

Victor Bible III
Mary L. Patrina
Diana Yeisley
Arlene E. Zappile
Grace Comeau
Kathleen M. Fallon
Mona Herman
Michael R. Jennings
Marvin S. Koff
Edward J. LaMontagne, *Chair*
Mary Ellen Long
Mona Martinik
Mark A. Orenstein
Charlotte W. Steptoe
Lynn R. Veith
Ronald P. Zappile

Board of Ethics

Kevin M. Crimmins
Robert W. Heagney
Peter Thomas Kellogg, *Chair*
Polly A. Maier
David M. Moore
Barbara A. Petitjean

Building Code

Board of Appeals

Steven T. Antonio
Samuel Ziplow
Emil T. Dahlquist, *Chair*
William J. Egan
JoAnn M. Hogan
Paul E. Holland
Charles A. Warren Jr., *Deputy Chair*

Clean Energy Task Force

Robert Beinstein
Patrick Boeshans, *Chair*
James A. Ray
Claudia Szerakowski
Melissa Valentin
Susan Van Kleef

Conservation Commission/ Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency

Patrick R. Kottas
James Morrison
Darren P. Cunningham
Betram Kaplan
Richard A. Miller Jr., *Chair*
Donald F. Rieger Jr.
Margaret R. Sexton
Margery C.B. Winters,
Vice Chairman
Dominick Zackeo

Culture, Parks & Recreation Commission

David W. Bush, *Chair*
Sarah K. Cramer
Kelly J. Kearney
Marc Lubetkin
William K. Mullen
Gerald A. Post
Francis Salls
Steven J. Spalla
Gerard H. Wetjen

Design Review Board

Jonathan Laschever
John E. Carroll, *Secretary*
Anca Dragulski
Anthony L. Drapelick
Joseph Paul Lanza
Jennifer Murnane, *Chair*
Ronald R. Perry

Economic Development Commission

David Balboni
Kristen C. Barnett
Carolyn Bligh
Mark Deming, *Chair*
Jay DeVivo
Gary F. Dornbush
Louis N. George
Charles A. Minor
Allan Richard Raphael Sr.

Fair Rent Commission

Madeleine P. Gilkey
Cornelia Mason
John F. Paddock
Helen K. Peterson
David A. Richman
Judy G. Schaefer
Mary N. Turner

Historic District Commission

Jonathan Laschever
Marc E. Lubetkin
Mark Nyquist
Denise H. Alfeld
Dianne L. Mead
Marguerite C. Rodney
Elizabeth B. Woollacott

Housing Authority

Kathleen H. Coffey
Cheryl B. Cook
Oliver B. Dickens Jr.
Woodrow W. Eddins Jr.
Ronald P. Zappile, *Chair*

Human Relations Commission

Susan G. Ersinghaus
Sharon I. Lawson

Insurance Committee

Madeleine Gilkey
Nicholas B. Mason
Paul H. Mikkelsen Jr.
Peter C. Peterson
Edward F. Sparkowski, *Chair*

Open Space Committee

Mary A. Glassman FS, *Chair*
Ferguson R. Jansen Jr., PC
Helen K. Peterson, At-Large
Robert D. Pomeroy Jr., ZC
Margery C.B. Winters, CC/IWWA

Performing Arts Center Board

Catherine A. Barnard, *Secretary*
Robert S. Hensley, *Chair*
Ross D. Herlands
Ferguson R. Jansen Jr., *Vice Chairman*
Edward J. Kubasek II
Michael G. Pendergast
Timothy E. Pusch

Police Commission

Edward M. Cosgrove
Carl D. Eisenmann
James T. Fleming
Michael T. Long
Brendan M. Walsh, *Chair*

Public Building Committee

Lawrence Boardman
Richard Cortes
Richard A. Derr
Lucian M. Dragulski
Francis J. Kelly
Michael E. Laureno Jr.
Richard E. Ostop, *Chair*
Mary Lou Patrina
John J. Salvatore

Recycling Committee

R. Kingsbury Chase
Lori P. Fernand, *Chair*
Rosemary V. Fusco
Janice L. Kern
Carol Miller
Mary N. Turner

Retirement Plan Subcommittee

Peter K. Askham
Cheryl B. Cook
Robert Michael Goman
Lisa L. Heavner
Nicholas B. Mason
Paul F. McAlenney
Philip M. Schulz
Michael T. Wade

Simsbury Farms Complex Committee

Antonio B. Braz
David P. Dell
Dennis J. Fallon
Linda P. Johnson
Ronald T. Patterson
Gerald A. Post
Kevin W. Schultz

Tourism Committee

Dominique Avery, *Co-Chair*
Catherine Barnard
Angela Marie Campetti
Patricia Carbone
Paulette Clark
Joyce R. Howard, *Co-Chair*
Laurie G. Matczak
Steven S. Mitchell
Katherine A. Oakes
Barbara L. O'Connor
Diane D. Phillips
Sara Ann Schultz
Charmaine L. Seavy

Water Pollution Control Authority

Paul N. Gilmore
Thomas J. Hickey
Edward J. Kelly
Michael A. Park
Philip W. Richardson, *Chair*
Jerry G. Sheehan
Loren Shoemaker

Our Town Today

PHONE NUMBERS

Area Code	860
Emergency Phone Numbers	
Fire Department	911
Routine Information	658-1971
Police Department/Ambulance	911
933 Hopmeadow Street	
Routine Information	658-3100
Simsbury Vol. Ambulance Assoc.	
658-7213	64 West Street

Department/Service	Phone Number
Assessor	658-3251
Board of Education	651-3361
Building	658-3234
Chamber of Commerce	651-7307
Continuing Education	658-3870
Engineering	658-3260
Farmington Valley Health District	352-2333
Finance	658-3244
Fire Marshal	658-1973
Historical Society	658-2500
Housing Authority	658-1147
Judge of Probate	658-3277
Landfill	658-9481
Library, Simsbury Public	658-7663
Planning	658-3245
Police	658-3100
Public Works	658-3222
Recreation	658-3255
Simsbury Farms Complex office	658-3836
Simsbury Farms Golf Club	658-6246
Recorded Information	658-2512
Registrar of Voters	658-3267
First Selectman	658-3230
SCTV Community TV	658-1720
Sewer Treatment	658-1380
Social Services	658-3283
Tax Collector	658-3238
Town Clerk	658-3243
Town Hall	658-3200
Aquarion Water Company	658-6707
Visitors Center	658-4000

TOWN MANAGEMENT

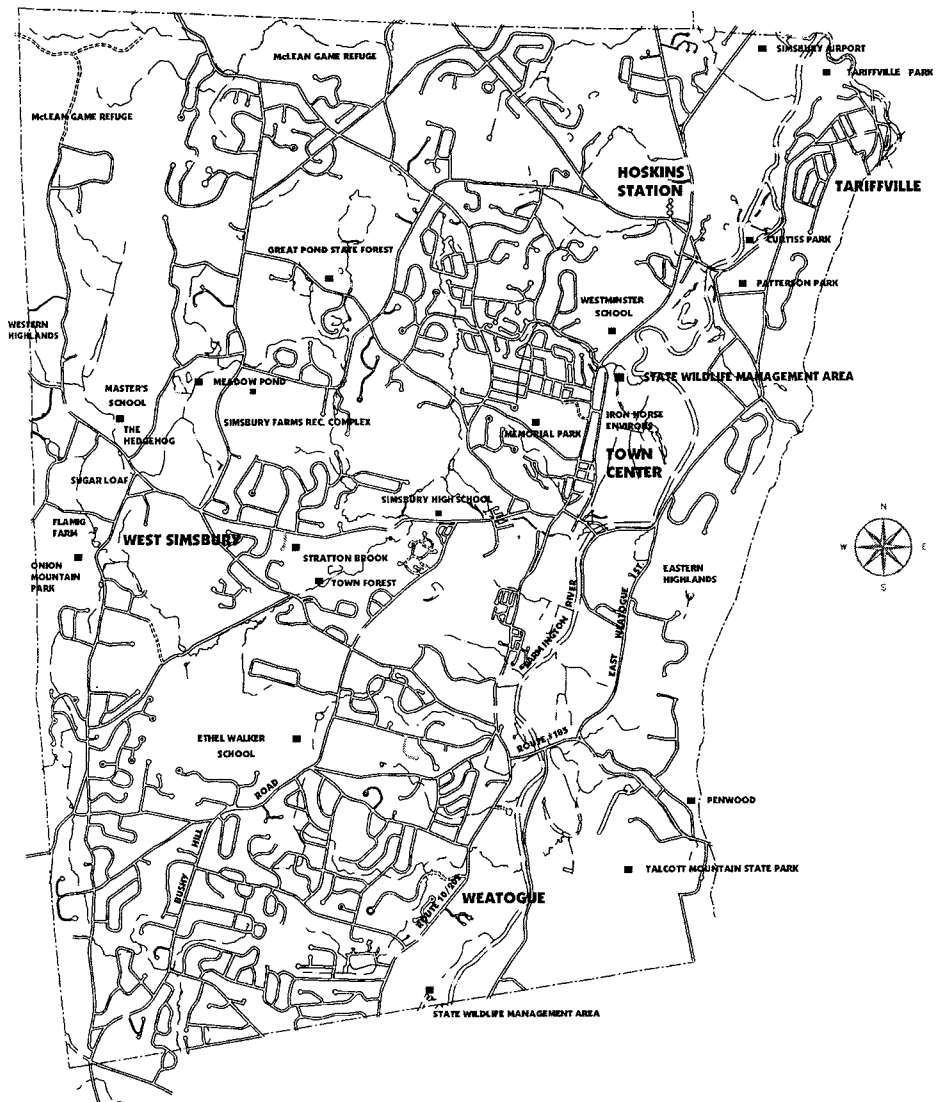
First Selectman	Mary A. Glassman
Police Chief	Peter Ingvertsen
Director of Finance	Joseph Mancini
Town Engineer	Jerome F. Shea
Dir. of Admin. Services	Thomas Cooke
Dep. Dir. of Admin. Services	Sean Kimball
Dir of Culture, Parks and Rec.	Gerry Toner
Dir. of Planning	Hiram Peck III
Dir. of Public Works	Thomas Roy
Dir. of Simsbury Public Library	Lisa Karim
Dir. of Social Services	Mickey Lecours-Beck
Town Clerk	Carolyn Keily

TOWN MEETING DATES*

Board of Selectmen	The second and fourth Monday of each month.
Board of Education	The second and fourth Tuesday of each month.
Board of Finance	The third Tuesday of each month.
Planning Commission	The second and fourth Tuesday of each month.
Zoning Commission	The first and third Monday of each month.

*Subject to change - verify meeting dates and times by calling the town hall

TOWN MAP





SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT

Heritage. Charm. Adventure.

2013-2014 Annual Report